

WARREN  
MAGAZINE



SPIRIT  
#9

AUG. 1975

THE

SPIDER

BY WILL EISNER

59296-5  
PDC

\$1.25



STOP  
THE PLOT

WHITE  
CLOUD

TWO  
LIVES

THE SPACE  
SNIPER



# THE SPIRIT

EIGHT BIG STORIES IN THIS EXCITING ISSUE

BLACK  
GOLD

THE VERNAL  
EQUINOX

THE  
CANDIDATE

LOVEY  
LOOIE



**DUR COVER**

THE SPIRIT's in a jam. He's surrounded by crooks and about to fall. Is it the work of that evil nemesis, The Octopus? The Will Eisner-Ken Kelly painting captures danger!

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# THE SPIRIT

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**AUGUST 1975**

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"I suggest that artists besides Will Eisner try THE SPIRIT, and I am called a 'heretic!' I'm not one!" states disgruntled Roger May!

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### **P'GELL AND THE OCTOPUS**

The most dastardly of THE SPIRIT's criminal foes joins P'Gell. Is it a deadly new plot? No. She just wants to ask a few questions!

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**TWO LIVES** Carboy T. Cretch, Cranfranz Quayle. Men with same features and similar problems. So they decided to make an even exchange. They traded lives!

# THE SPIRIT'S DEAD LETTERS



**M**urder. Robbery. Suicide. Blackmail. Mystery. These are the elements of real detectives' lives. And their realistic portrayal has made Will Eisner's SPIRIT popular. Eisner is completely original! He shows slums and the petty crimes of the men and women that inhabit them as often as he delves into the lives of the more exotic criminals.

There are a lot of superheroes around who spend their time fighting super-villains. I prefer heroes, like THE SPIRIT, who fight ordinary criminals.

My favorite story in SPIRIT #7 was "Cheap is Cheap." The one I liked the least was "Young Dr. Ebony." I suppose the latter was supposed to be funny, but somehow it just didn't seem as hilarious as some of Eisner's more ostensibly serious attempts.

I would especially like to congratulate Ken Kelly and Eisner on the brilliant cover. It was spectacular. Even the logo design was brilliant.

DAVID TRASKUS  
Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

## "Ordinary men...extraordinary villains!"

I like THE SPIRIT a lot! His adventures are exciting and I read them over and over again.

I especially like the magazines because, when I'm tired of reading, I can copy the pictures. That makes them twice as good!

BRAD YOUNG  
Niles, Michigan

If you're going to copy pictures, Niles, you couldn't pick a better man to learn from than Will Eisner. He's one of the acknowledged masters of the comics media. Keep drawing and in a few years, we might see your pictures in the pages of Warren magazines!

For a long time, I have been a SPIRIT fan. I have collected every SPIRIT comic and bit of paraphernalia I could get my hands on. I feel like I know a lot about him.

In the midst of all this supposed knowledge, one thing continues to puzzle me... his hideout in Wildwood Cemetery!

How was it built? What does all of it look like?

It would please me and probably a lot of other SPIRIT fans, if in some future issue of THE SPIRIT you would bring a full page diagram or pin-up of THE SPIRIT'S hideout.

ROBERT GILPIN  
New York, N.Y.

A good idea, Robert. Your request has been passed on to Mr. Eisner. We're sure he'll give it full consideration.

The original comic pages of THE SPIRIT weren't toned, were they?

Is the tone that appears in the Warren SPIRIT wash or is it a mechanical tone, like zip-a-tone?

Is it applied by Will Eisner or someone else? How?

However it's done, it looks great!

WILL BLEACH  
San Mateo, Calif.

The original SPIRIT pages were line drawings, Will. The tone was added later and is a special Warren feature.

Will Eisner's assistant, John Laney, under Eisner's careful supervision, is responsible for the excellent tones in THE SPIRIT. The toning is done on acetate overlays. The line originals are photographed by the printer for solid line and black and white areas. Then the tone overlays are photographed...broken into dots so that they appear gray on the printed page.

When this method is used, the lines don't break up or blur. We get the sharp, crisp tones you admired. We think the results are worth the extra time and effort this method entails.

My first contact with the SPIRIT was in 1966 when I read the two issues of Harvey Comics SPIRIT reprints. Before then, I hadn't even heard of THE SPIRIT. Since that time I have been a SPIRIT addict. I was therefore delighted when Warren decided to publish magazines featuring one of my all-time-favorite characters.

Even though the stories featured are reprints from the '40's, their themes are universal enough to be still applicable to the '70's.

I've noticed that there are a few fans who want different artists to try their hand at THE SPIRIT. I think this would prove interesting. There are an awful lot of fine artists around!

It would be great to see a SPIRIT cover painted by Frank Frazetta. And Jim Steranko's version of THE SPIRIT would be exciting.

But no matter how good the artists, I don't think their stories would quite match Eisner's.

I would like to see him do some new stories. But I would prefer that he use his old forties style. I don't much care for the wash technique he used in several of the Kitchen underground comics.

Here's hoping that THE SPIRIT lasts a long, long time!

NICHOLAS POLIWKO  
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Congratulations! Warren Publishing has produced one of the finest comic lines in the world!

Over here in Holland THE SPIRIT is a great success. It's for sale in all the major book stores.

I realize that Will Eisner didn't write an infinite number of stories. What happens when there are no more stories to reprint? Will Eisner write some new ones? I hope so!

ARNO DE BLANK  
Velp, Holland

There are a few qualified artists around today who verify the old adage, "One picture is worth a thousand words." Neal Adams can do it. Russ Manning can do it. And Will Eisner can do it. In fact, Eisner has been doing it for better than a quarter of a century! Case in point: "Hoagy the Yogi II," in SPIRIT #7.

Never have I enjoyed a story as much! Never has a story deserved such praise!

Each line...each brushstroke...each letter, cries out with perfection! Not a complicated perfection, but a beauty of simplicity. Each panel contains just what is needed to put across its point. Background when background is needed, and only when it is needed.

Eisner's art is a real pleasure to see. For one man to have such writing and artistic talent seems almost indecent. And for such a talent to let issues go by without giving us a fresh new story is somewhere near blasphemy!

What Eisner has done is great, but let's see something new. After all, when you're great, you're going to be in demand.

STEPHAN FREIDT  
Yakima, Wash.

A fascinating article by Mike Barrier on comic reprints, was published in the 1974-75 Winter edition of *Funnyworld*, a now defunct magazine published in Atlanta, Ga. by Mr. Barrier.

In it, Mr. Barrier stated that he would rather read the Warren SPIRIT than any other comic magazine on the newsstand today! A ringing endorsement from a man who knows as much about comics as he does!

I wish Warren could reprint the entire article. It contained some fine insights into Eisner's work...past and present.

BILL BROWN  
Atlanta, Ga.



THE SPIRIT's opponents might be ordinary men, not superheroes, as suggested in the letter from David Traskus, but they are extraordinary personalities. They're Eisner's!

# "Eisner... original realist!"

SPIRIT #8, featuring the "beautiful but deadly female foes of THE SPIRIT" was well worth the wait. Imagine, a lineup of beautiful women, each more gorgeous and corrupt than the last! Will Eisner's talent for rendering beautiful women is unmatched, as is his storytelling ability.

SPIRIT #8 proves it!

ERIC KEITZ  
Bronx, N.Y.

My favorite SPIRIT #7 story was "A Prisoner of Love." I felt great when Ebony not only foiled the criminal, but THE SPIRIT's girlfriend, Ellen, as well.

I also liked the cover a lot. It was great to see Ebony sticking with THE SPIRIT in the face of real danger. He's a fine friend to have in a tight spot!

MIKE CHAPMAN  
Warren, R.I.

The mini-controversy surrounding Ebony has taken a surprising turn as of THE SPIRIT #7.

Warren could have yielded to those who find Ebony offensive. He could have kept him out of the magazine as much as possible, though that wouldn't have been easy since the stories are reprints.

Instead he has, with typical Warren ingenuity, stepped in the other direction. He has given us an all-Ebony issue!

It seems to me that those who find Ebony objectionable would rather see blacks in comics portrayed as one-dimensional "Super-lys." But as popular as this type of character might be, he is as much a stereotype as Ebony. And, truthfully, I don't know which paints black men in a worse light.

In many ways, Ebony is not a stereotypical. The stories in SPIRIT #7 used him to great advantage. He is depicted as full of humanity, compassion, honor, and strength... and of course, juvenile naivete! The issue was enough to make you alternately laugh and cry. Ebony possesses the warmth and vitality that has helped make Will Eisner's characters famous.

I especially liked the Ebony cover. Its design was fascinating! The logo and the left-hand cover insignia were actually integrated into the cover scene. And there were no cover blurbs! The cover was suitable for framing! I hope Warren will be offering it for sale along with the other beauts in the Warren poster gallery.

BOB RODI  
Oak Brook, Ill.

SPIRIT #6 brought readers my letter enthusing about the possibility of other artists adding to Will Eisner's store of classic SPIRIT tales.

SPIRIT #7 brought me outraged criticism. I have even been branded a "heretic!" Heretic, indeed!

"No one appreciates Will Eisner and his creation more than I. (In fact, upon reading SPIRIT #8, I realized that the first comic artwork I ever copied was "Bring in Sand Sa-ref.")

But just because Hal Foster was the first to do a comic Tarzan was no reason for Burne Hogarth not to try.

What I want is, not so much a replacement, as a different point of view.

Anyway, as of SPIRIT #8, it looks to me as if Ken Kelly is doing more than half the art for the cover, and I don't hear anyone complaining about this.

I consider it a step in the right direction. ROGER MAY  
San Francisco, Calif.

The last two issues of THE SPIRIT have revolved around a specific theme, and I, for one, don't like it. Spirit #7 brought us Ebony. #8 was full of female villains.

I find the magazines much more enjoyable when you let the themes vary.

MICHAEL N. TIERSTEIN  
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Okay. You've had your Ebony issue. You've had your "beautiful but deadly female foes of THE SPIRIT issue."

Now how about an all Octopus issue?

RAPHAEL C. RIVERO  
E. Rutherford, N.J.

I got SPIRIT #8, replete with beautiful villainesses, on a gorgeous spring day. This magazine made the day seem even better.

NICOLAS C. POST  
New York, N.Y.

I have a burning question. As a desperate collector of THE SPIRIT, I would like to know how many issues of THE SPIRIT were published by Dennis Kitchen's underground press?



ROBERT JONES  
Decatur, Ga.

Two issues, Robert. And Captain Company bought a quantity of both. They are now being sold through the advertising section of this magazine. A collector's dream, since these issues have become pretty hard to find elsewhere!



The all-round-favorite Ebony story from THE SPIRIT #7 was "Cheap is Cheap," an interesting tale with a fairly modern theme. Consumer protection was the name of the game!

It was my good fortune that the cover of issue #5 of THE SPIRIT caused me to flip through it at the newsstand. I discovered THE SPIRIT. And I was sold!

I later found a copy of issue #1 at a downtown back numbers dealer (for \$1.25, the full cover price) and a copy of issue #3 at a liquor/adult magazine store. (THE SPIRIT certainly gets around.) I enjoyed every one so much that I sent Captain Company an order for the #s 2, 4 and 6 and an extra copy of #1. That's gonna be valuable some day!

Will Eisner draws women with great finesse. From the virginal quality of Ellen Dolan to the deadly vampism of Powder Pouf, they are extremely eye-catching and beautiful.

The heroes in other comics look like stiffs when compared to THE SPIRIT. And with good looks like those displayed on the back cover of SPIRIT #7, it's little wonder Ellen gets mushy over THE SPIRIT.

A clever, tightly constructed plot plus beautiful layout and page design made "Cheap is Cheap" the best story in SPIRIT #7.

If there was even a great

lampoon or radio soap opera, "Young Dr. Ebony" is it. In spots it is "high-camp" hilarious!

There has been a lot of discussion in recent issues concerning Eisner's choice of sidekick for THE SPIRIT. Eisner's portrayal of Ebony has also been under attack.

Any concern with racism can be dispelled by the story "Hoagy the Yogi." In it we have a perfectly straight black character, Lieut. Gray. There are also black men who are caricatured. They are criminals, and these have always been fair game, as far as Eisner's wit is concerned.

It really doesn't seem to matter what "type" a person is. Black, white, criminal, cop, child, man, woman... if personality demands caricature, Eisner gives it to 'em. The man is without prejudice as far as I can tell. Everybody gets it!

I just can't get enough of THE SPIRIT. And since I'm afraid you would run out of material more quickly if you went bi-monthly, I'll resign myself to eagerly awaiting each issue whenever it comes out.

STEVEN DHUEY  
Milwaukee, Wisc.

## ENVY THE SPIRIT!

His days are filled with crime fighting. His nights with romance. But every now and then he needs a stiff dose of reality. Let him have it! Write THE SPIRIT!

THE SPIRIT'S DEAD LETTERS  
c/o Warren Publishing Co.  
145 East 32nd Street  
New York, New York 10016





## P'GELL INTERVIEWS THE OCTOPUS

P'Gell: Mr. Octopus, we are here to interview the world's greatest criminal, and you are he! Octopus: Yes, that's my reputation... and deservedly, I might add. I know of no other individual greater or more successful than me in the fine art of crime.

P'Gell: You have a lot of fans. And readers who follow the adventures of THE SPIRIT would like to know more about you.

Octopus: That's a laugh! I've been going through great pains to keep my identity a secret. What makes you think I'll blow my cover now?

P'Gell: Look, Octopus, I don't think you fully understand. There's an enormous opportunity here. Thousands of SPIRIT fans are out there even now. What if they could be turned into Octopus fans... instead?

Octopus: H-m-m-m. I'm getting the drift...! Fans represent an enormous potential...!

P'Gell: Right! Now let's suppose we can organize them into a controllable group...!

Octopus: Wow! That sounds exciting. I could start the wheels of an empire rolling... by having operators in every major city. I'll let them all think they're my captains. Then I can train them for fantastic exploits in crime.

P'Gell: And I can raise the money to fund the entire operation. I know a few fat-cats with some heavy coin. But before they put it up, I'll have to outline the profits to them. I mean, what's their slice of the pie?

Octopus: Why with an organization of thousands we can plan some of the biggest operations in the history of crime. Imagine a network of Octopus adherents devoted to selling Will Eisner's original artwork. Eisner keeps his old work in a steel vault within a huge concrete building.

P'Gell: I get it! You're planning just one big rip-off. You'll steal the artwork then sell it through your network of adherents throughout the country. It should net us a fortune!

Octopus: Yes. Exactly. But getting into the vault is too big a question. Eisner has guards on duty around the clock. The vault is burglar proof. And his schnauzer is on constant surveillance. That place is tighter than Fort Knox! So this has to be an inside job.

P'Gell: Exactly what I was thinking! It so happens that I've gotten... ahem... very friendly, you might say, with the senior guard at the vault door. You could have a truck backed up at the south service exit with the motor running. And I could deliver the goods at 5 a.m. which is the usual time for garbage pick-up. No one would even think it unusual.

Octopus: Just a moment. You're not proposing to be inside while I'm outside, are you?

P'Gell: Why not? Don't you trust me? We're talking about millions of dollars in this deal, Octy! There's room for both of us.

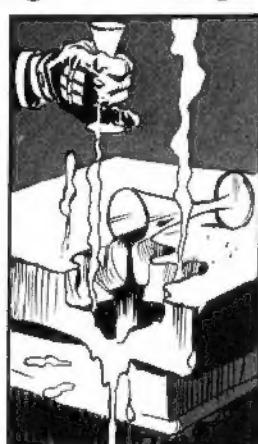
Octopus: H-m-m-m... well... Okay! It's a deal! Ahem... now that we're partners this calls for a celebration. How about a little drink?

P'Gell: Why thank you... how nice! Burgundy! My favorite wine! Oh dear, I've spilled it...! My goodness... it's eating through the wooden table! Tsk! Tsk! How cunning of you, Octopus! Dear me, I spilled some on my dress. Would you excuse me while I change...?

Octopus: Just a moment, P'Gell. How do I know you won't disappear out of the Ladies Room?

P'Gell: Why, I'll just leave my valuable wrist-watch here as a token of my earnest... Okay?

Octopus: H-m-m-m — funny tick to this watch...!

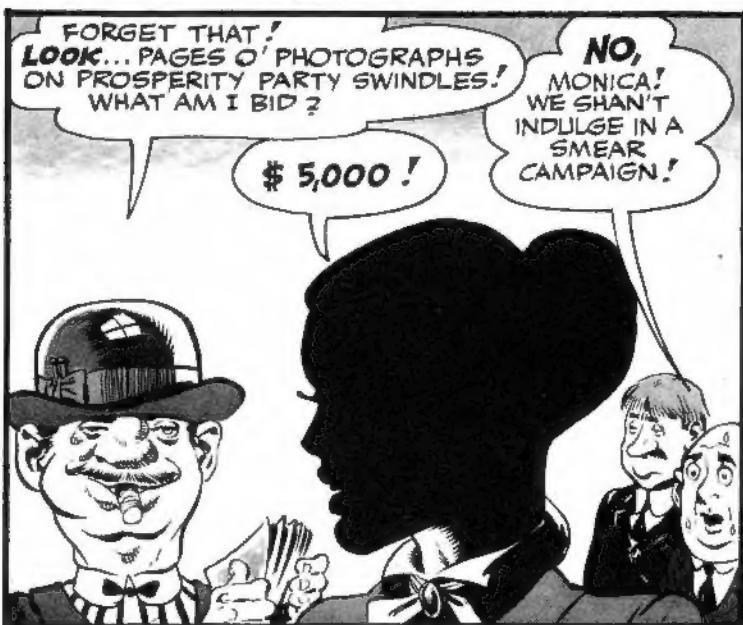
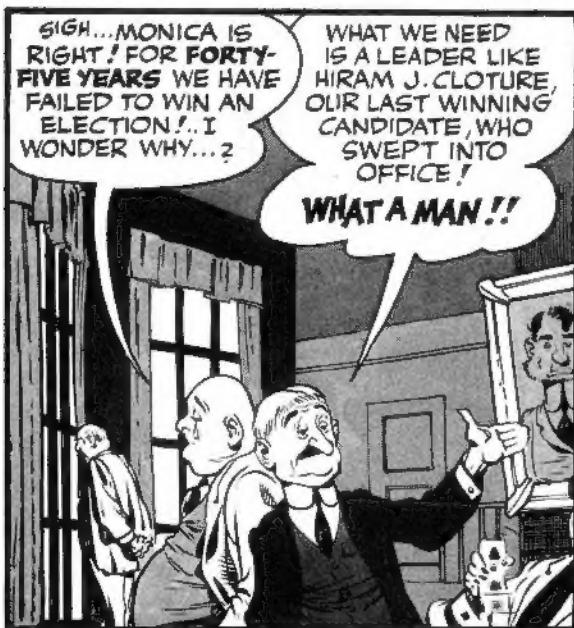


# THE CANDIDATE

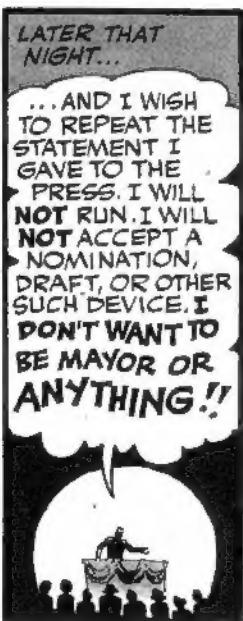
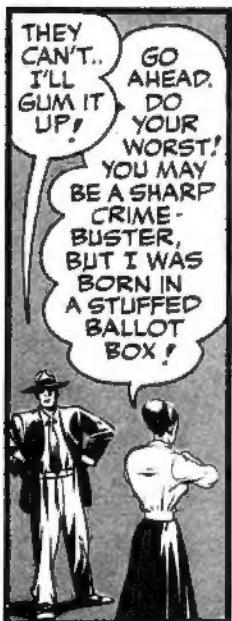
SPIRIT



ELECTION ROW IN CENTRAL CITY...  
HERE ARE SITUATED THE HEADQUARTERS  
OF THE CITY'S TWO MAJOR PARTIES...

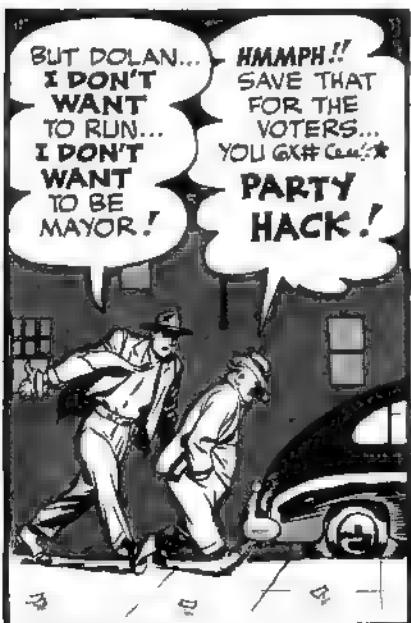
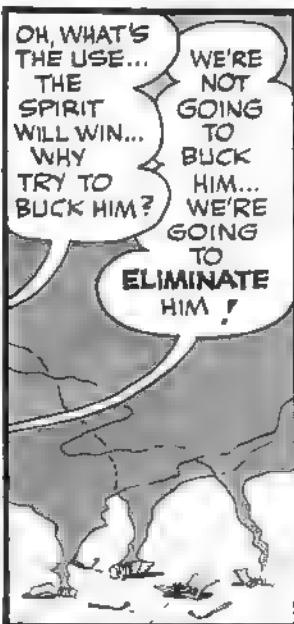


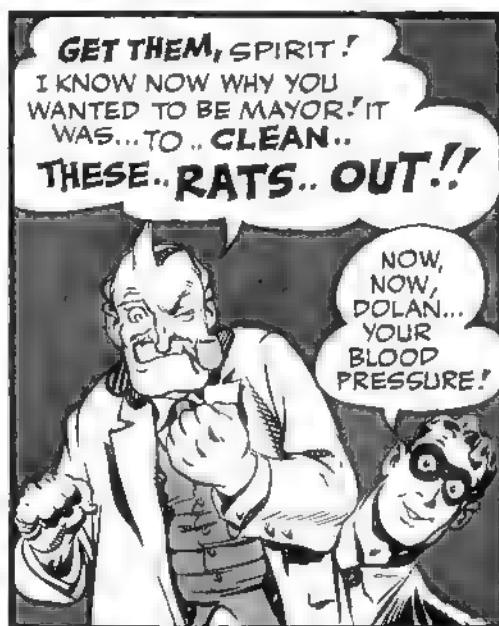




# SPIRIT LEADING IN MAYORALTY POLL!!

ELECTION IS TO  
BE NEXT  
WEEK





# the SPIRIT

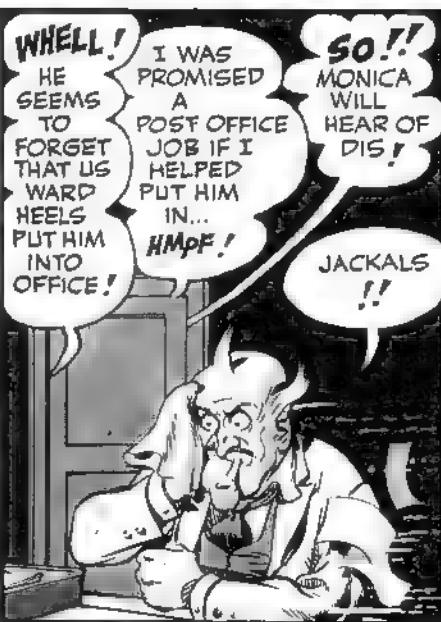
By  
Will Eisner

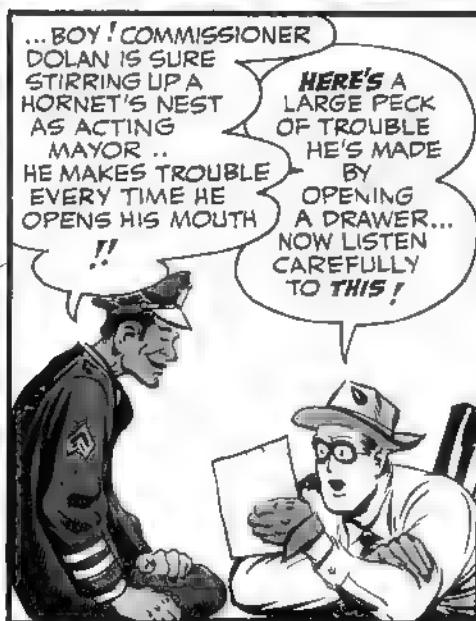
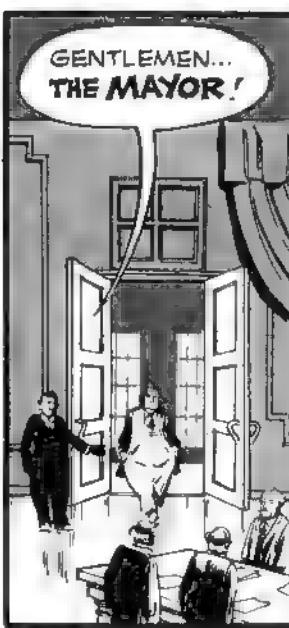
**I**n 1619 a group of pilgrims landed on Central Rock. The little community flourished and grew. "Central Rock" became "Central Trading Post", then "Central Township"... and so it grew from township to city to that great, thriving metropolis of today... "Central City".

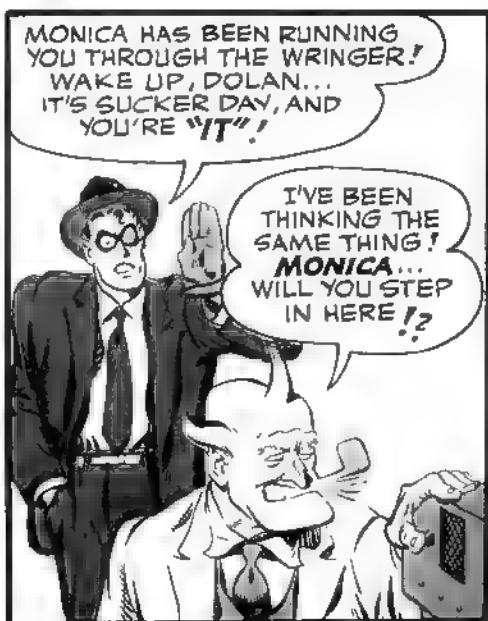
**B**ut Central City has not only grown in wealth and size since those early days... in its great buildings and vast commercial establishments....

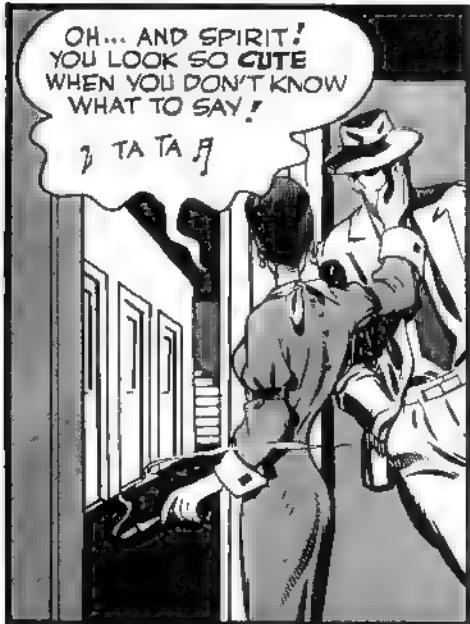
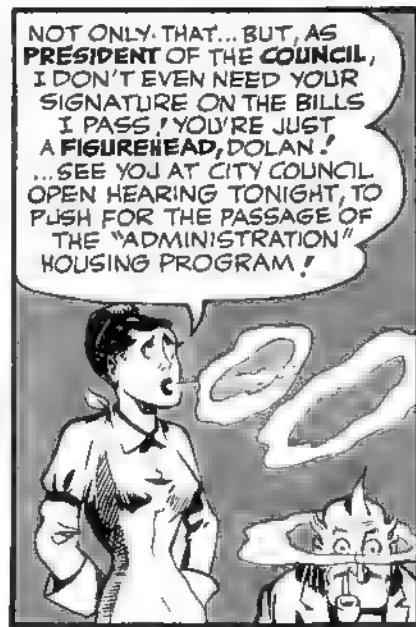
**C**entral City has also continually progressed in the sterling calibre of its public servants.

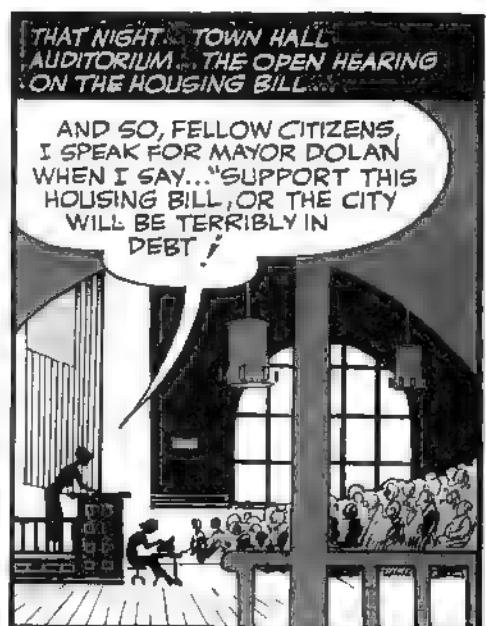




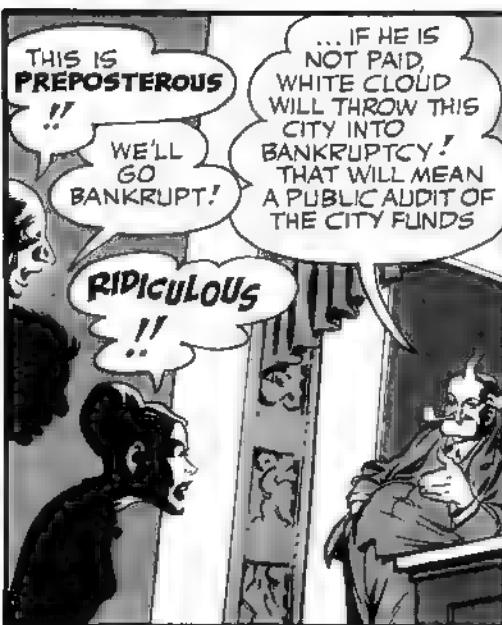




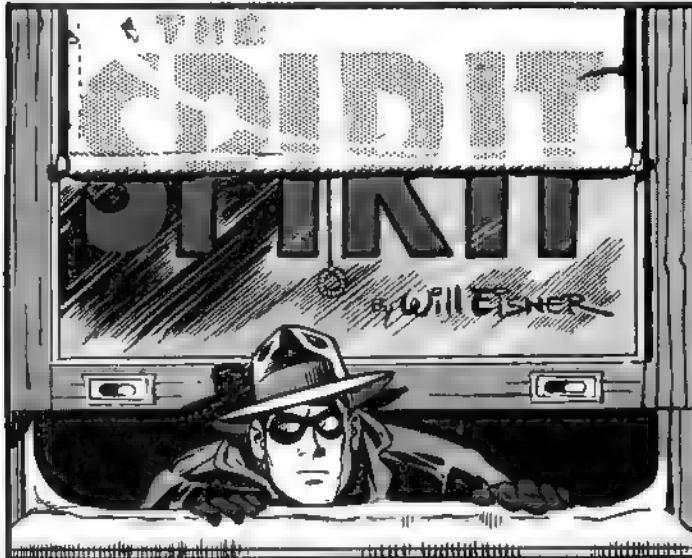




UNFORTUNATELY, THE CITY FATHERS MISPLACED THIS DOCUMENT, AND THE RENTAL WAS NEVER PAID! TODAY, CHARLIE WHITE CLOUD IS THE LAST OF THE CLOUDFEET INDIANS!...LEGALLY, THE CITY OWES HIM \$ 4,123,000.00 PLUS COMPOUND INTEREST!



# THE COIN



IT IS WITH PROFOUND REGRET THAT WE  
MUST ACKNOWLEDGE THE INROADS MADE BY  
THE NOTORIOUS RADIO GIVE-AWAY SHOWS...: SIGH:  
YES, SO SUCCESSFUL HAVE THEY BEEN THAT EVEN OUR  
FAITHFUL FANS NO LONGER FIND IT PROFITABLE TO READ  
COMICS... LAST WEEK, WHEN "END-O-RAINBOW" CALLED  
JAY FOSGNOF FARFELL TO ASK (FOR A GRAND PRIZE OF  
\$20,000, TWO NEW SKYSCRAPERS, AND A FOUR-ENGINE  
JET-PROPELLED LONG RANGE BOMBER) IF HE COULD  
IDENTIFY THE MYSTERY TUNE, HE...GULP... WAS LOCKED  
IN HIS LIBRARY READING THE SPIRIT, AND FAILED TO ANSWER  
THE PHONE... (ER...WE KNOW ABOUT THIS BECAUSE HE SENT US  
A NASTY NOTE)...

**THUREFORE**

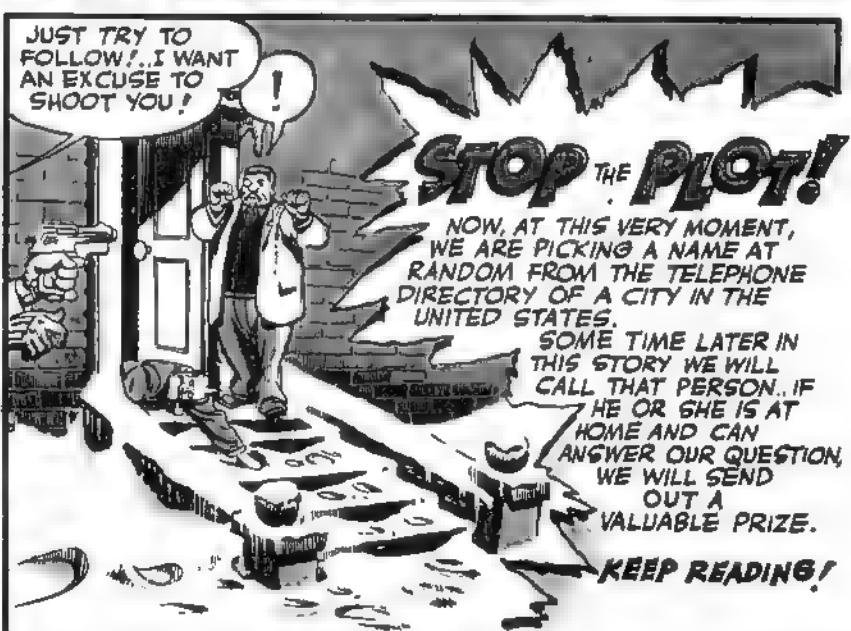
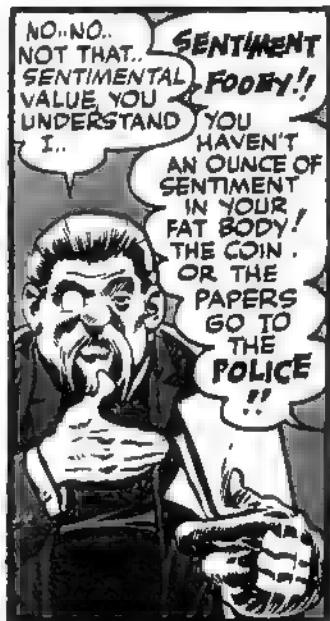
TO MAKE READING THE SPIRIT PAY...  
WE ANNOUNCE THE FIRST GIVE-AWAY EPISODE  
IN OUR HISTORY !!

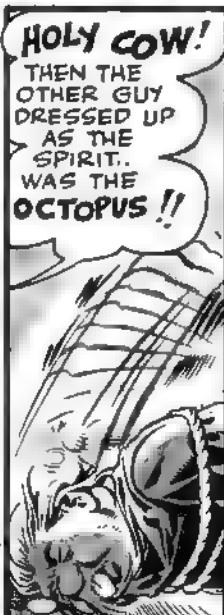
**YES--IT WILL PAY YOU TO READ THE SPIRIT!!**

YOU MAY WIN A VALUABLE PRIZE BEFORE YOU FINISH!  
MORE DETAILS LATER ON IN THE STORY...

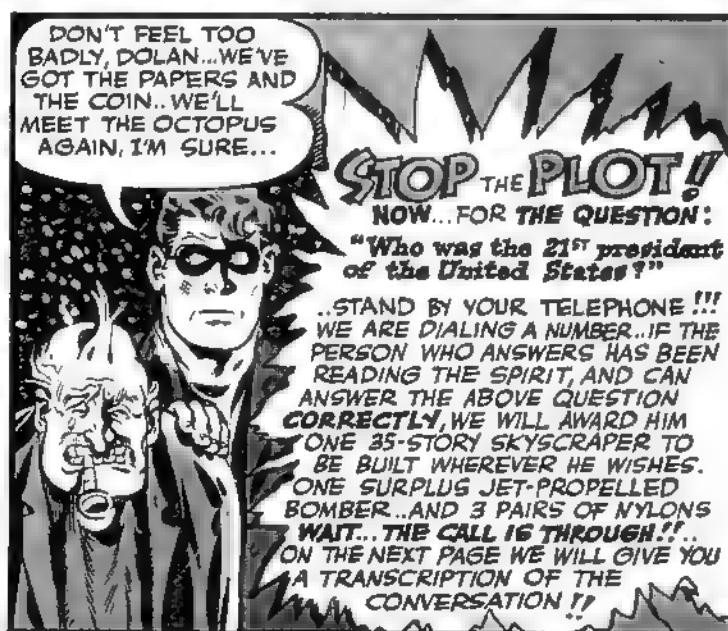
... KEEP READING THIS STORY...  
AND KEEP A TELEPHONE HANDY !!













AND NOW... VIA TELEVISION, WE TAKE YOU INTO THE HOME OF THE LUCKY MAN WHOSE NAME WAS SELECTED...

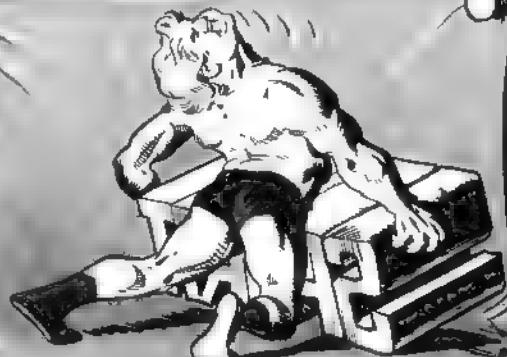


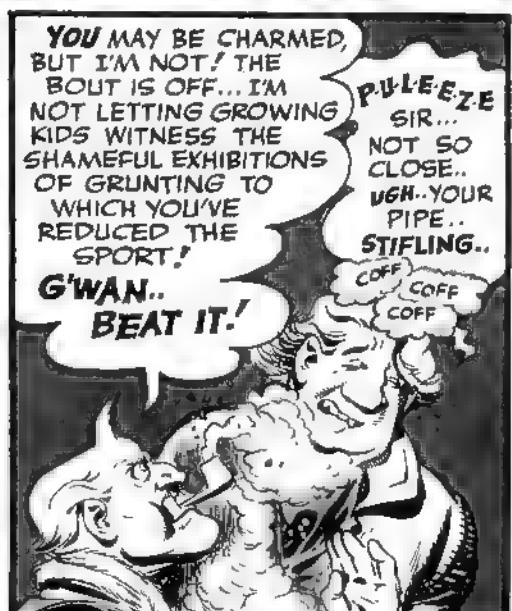
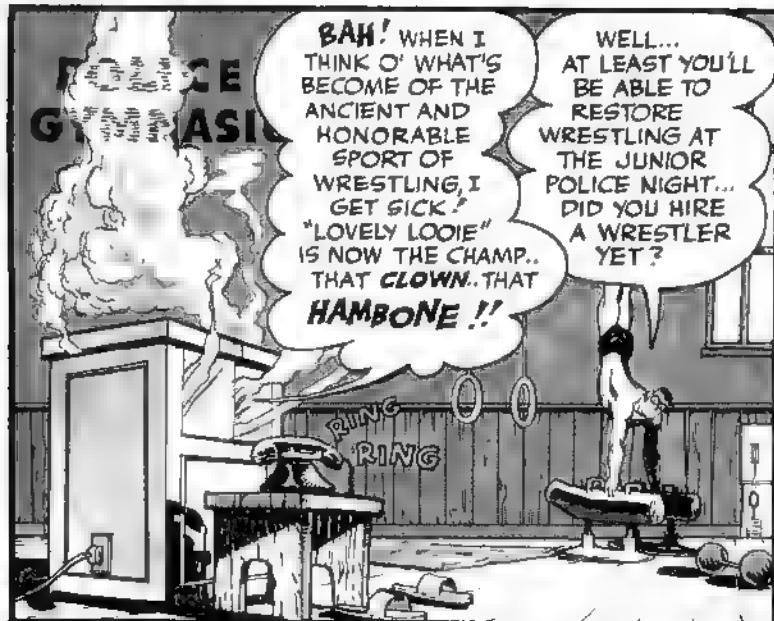
INTRODUCING

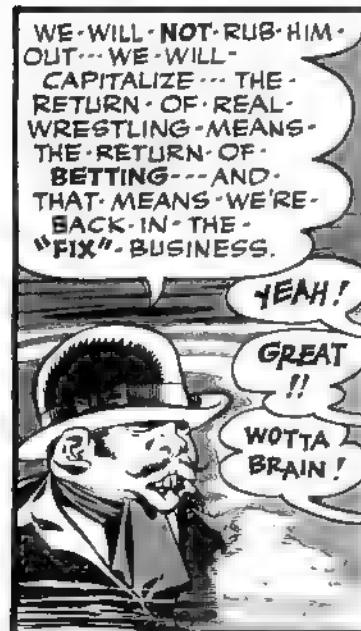
# LOVELY LOOIE

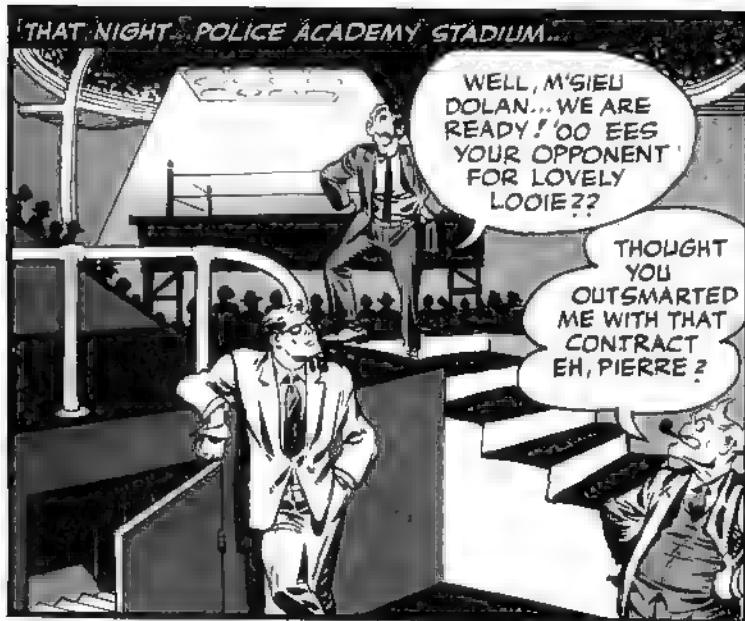
THAT MASSIVE MIRACLE --- THAT MASTODON OF  
MUSCULAR MAGNIFICENCE --- THE ONE  
AND ONLY UNDISPUTED CHAMPION IN  
THE MANLY ART OF WRESTLING.  
INVITES YOU TO ENCOURAGE, MEETING ALL WHO  
CHALLENGE HIS PEERLESS POWER.

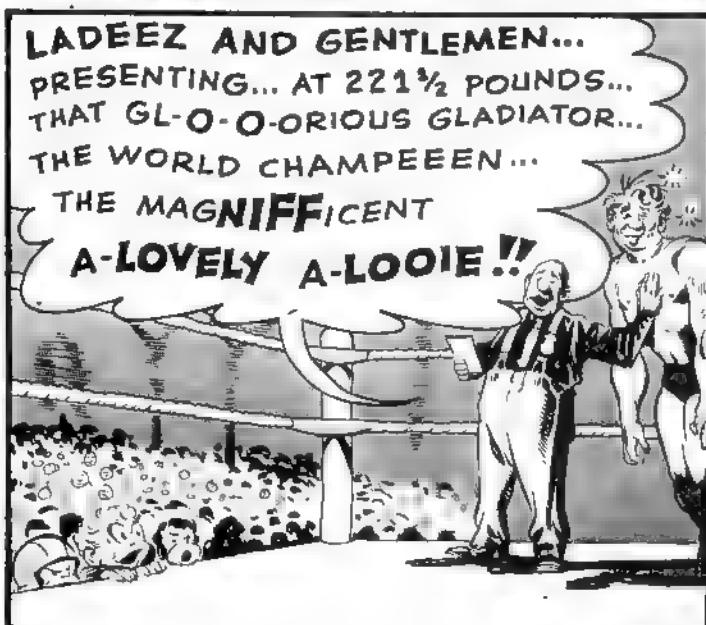
BY  
WILL  
EISNER

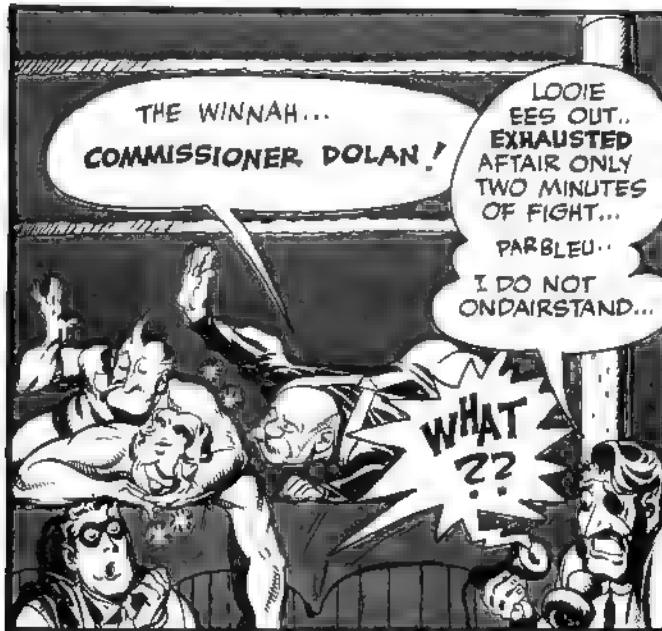
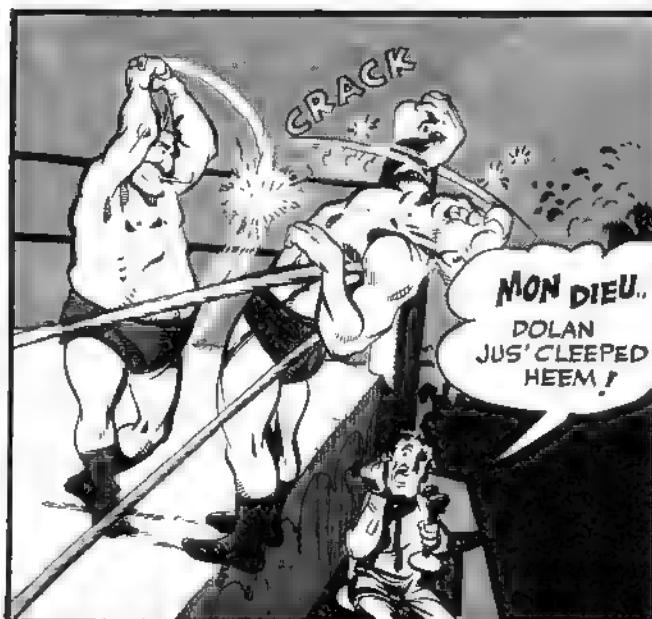


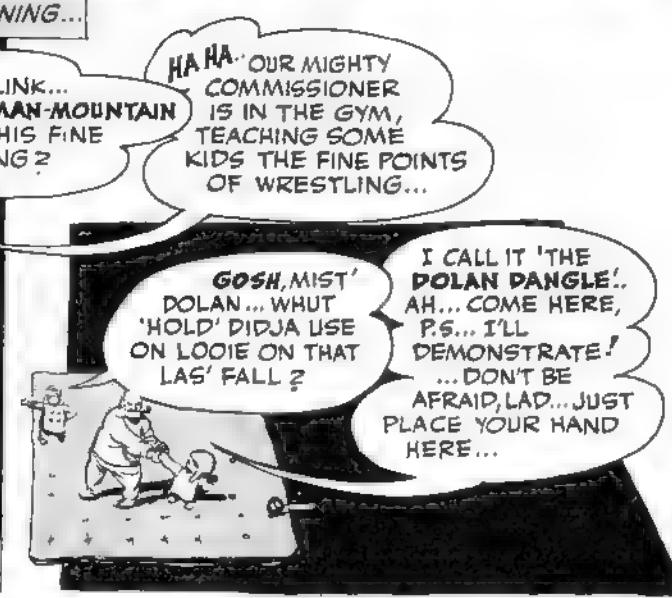
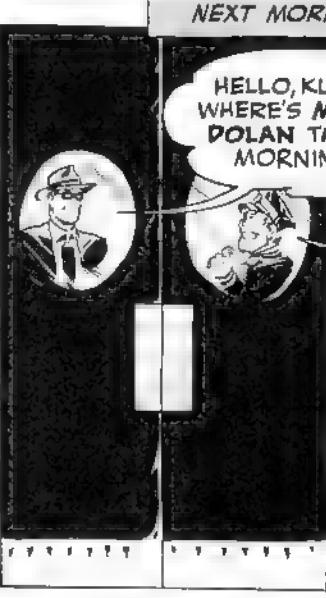
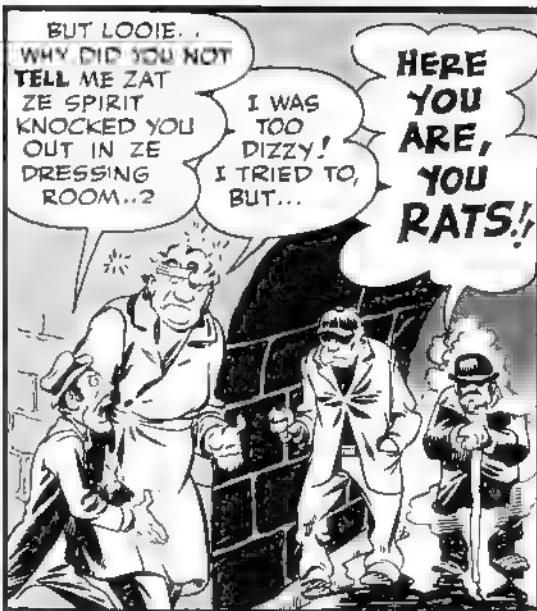
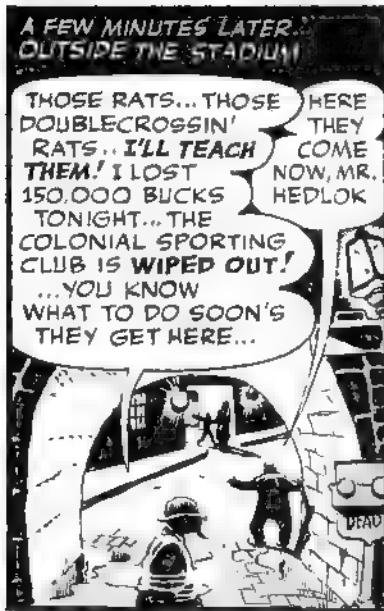












# THE

BY WILL EISNER

IN SEPTEMBER OF 1946, ARTEMUS PEAP, IN AN ATTEMPT TO ESCAPE THE POLICE, SOUGHT REFUGE IN A ROCKET SHIP CONSTRUCTED BY PROFESSOR ADOLphe LINK! THERE WAS AN EXPLOSION...AND NEITHER MAN WAS EVER HEARD FROM AGAIN.

## ARMY INTELLIGENCE DISCOVERS SECRET NAZI SPACE PLANS

Recent finds in the ruins of the former Nazi army headquarters indicate beyond all doubt that the Nazis were planning to park rocket missiles out in space and recall to earth and

target point would be controlled entirely by radio. G-2 has not revealed whether or not this plan was ever put into action.

It has not even

SEVERAL DAYS AGO, AT YELLOW SANDS ORDNANCE PROVING GROUNDS, TWELVE ROCKETS CONTAINING AUTOMATIC CAMERAS WERE SHOT INTO SPACE TO PHOTOGRAPH DATA FROM BEYOND THE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE! ONE DAY LATER, THE ROCKETS RETURNED! BUT THIS TIME THERE WERE THIRTEEN!

AND WHEN THE LAST ROCKET...

LANDED...

A MAN EMERGED....

# The SPACE SNIPER

COPYRIGHT 1975 WILL EISNER



OF THE FOUR ROCKET-STATIONS, TWO  
WERE HIT BY PLANETOIDS AND DESTROYED,  
WHILE ONE UNIT DRIFTED INTO THE EARTH'S  
GRAVITY PULL AND CRASHED SOMEWHERE  
IN THE ATLANTIC OCEAN...

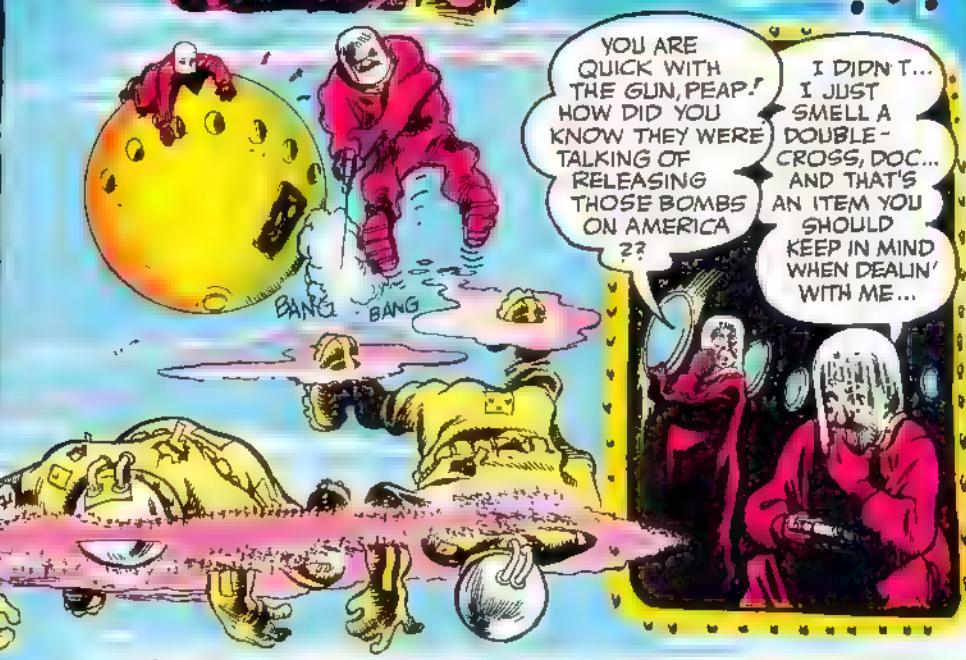
AND SO, IN THE VAST EMPTINESS BEYOND THE  
GRAVITATIONAL PULL OF THE EARTH, THERE  
REMAINED FLOATING AIMLESSLY AMID  
FRAGMENTS OF ASTEROIDS, THE LAST OF THE  
MAN-MADE OBJECTS... UNTIL ARTEMUS PEAP  
AND I CAME ALONG...



YOU CAN NOT KNOW HOW I FELT AT THAT MOMENT! AFTER YEARS OF CAREFULLY CONSTRUCTING THE SPACE SHIP AND PLANNING THE PRESSURIZED SUITS WE WORE, MY DREAM HAD BEEN ACHIEVED!

AND THEN WE HEARD THE FIRST OUTSIDE SOUND SINCE LEAVING THE EARTH'S SURFACE... AND THE THOUGHT OF WHAT WE HEARD STILL CHILLS ME!





IT WAS ONLY THEN THAT I BEGAN TO REALIZE MY CRIMINAL COLLEAGUE WAS A MADMAN...



FIGURE IT, PROFESSOR...  
ME.. ARTEMUS PEAP..  
HAVING ALL THIS POWER  
IN MY HANDS!! ANY  
TIME I'M IN THE  
MOOD.. WHENEVER THE  
FEELING HITS ME...  
**I CAN WIPE OUT  
ANY SPOT ON THE EARTH!**  
.GOT ANY PLACE YA  
WANT BOMBED,  
PALLEY??  
HA HA HA HA HA

NOW,  
PEAP...  
TAKE  
IT  
EASY...

**HAW!**  
SCARED YA,  
HUH? DON'T WORRY..  
I AIN'T GOIN' TO DO  
IT... NOT YET,  
ANYHOW!  
**HAW HAW HAW**

HE WENT ON LAUGHING, LEAPING UP  
AND DOWN IN THE VACUUMED SPACE..

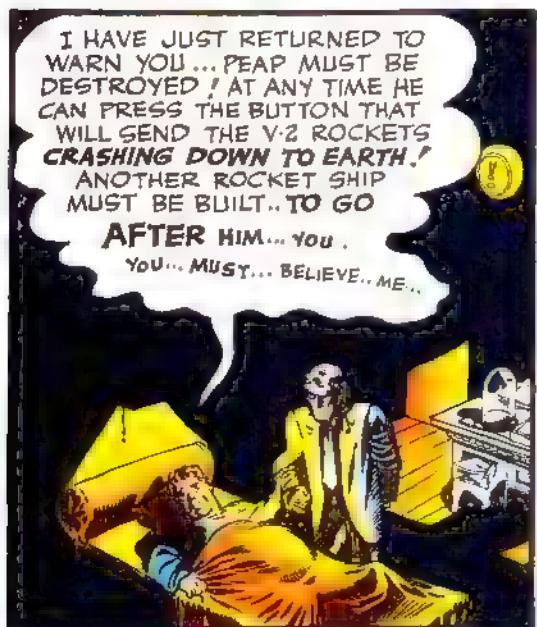
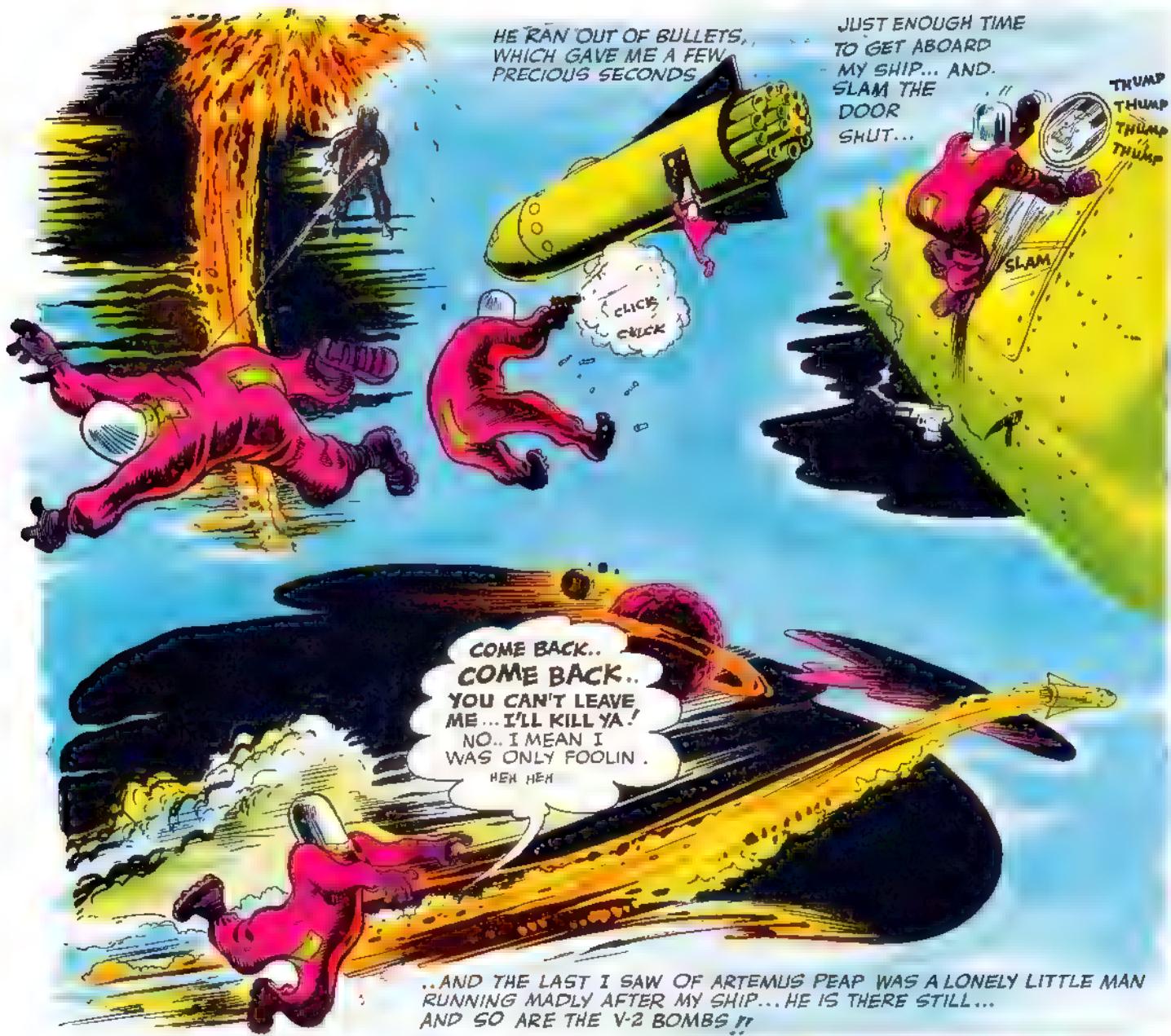
ARTEMUS PEAP,  
INTERPLANETARY EXPLORER...  
**HA HA.. THAT'S ME!!!**  
I'LL GO TO THE MOON..  
MAYBE MARS...  
**HA HA!**

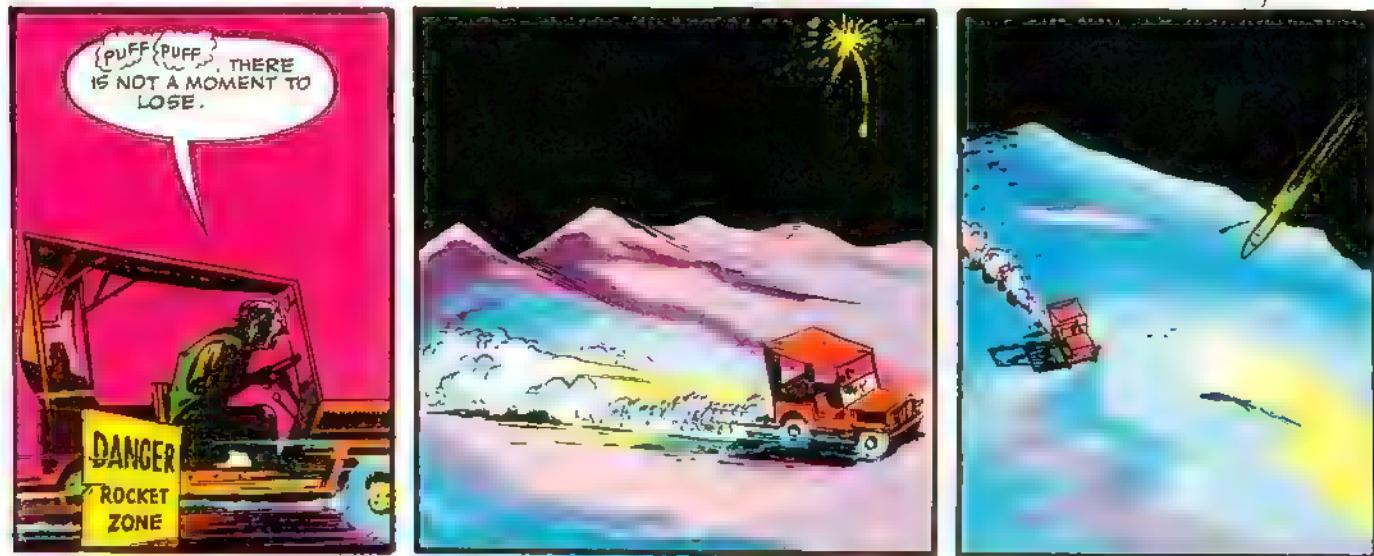


HEY...WHAT'S  
THAT??

SUDDENLY 12 ROCKETS  
BURST INTO VIEW..









A  
MEL BROOKS  
FILM.

# YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN

There never was anything like YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN. The hilarious new movie starring Gene Wilder as Dr. Freddy Frankenstein, Peter Boyle as The Monster, Marty Feldman as Igor, plus Cloris Leachman, Teri Garr, Kenneth Mars and Madeline Kahn. The paperback book based on this 20th Century Fox movie is now available along with this terrific full-color poster (shown above), T-Shirt, etc. Be the first ghoul on your block to have all this great YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN stuff!

# The Vernal Equinox



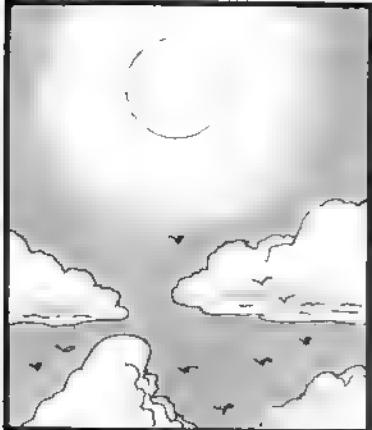
Each year around March 21<sup>st</sup> (in the north temperate zone) the sun enters the sign of Aries. At this period the position of the earth's axis is at a 90° angle to the direction of the sun, and day and night are equal the world over. This year, on Sunday, March 20, at 5:49 pm EST, the vernal equinox will begin.



From this point until the summer solstice, when the sun attains its greatest northern declination, the first of the four seasons occurs... and it is called ... SPRING...



Now the cold-crusted earth softens under the sun's gentle warmth, and things long asleep or yet unborn shake off the mantle of frost, and bestir themselves... until forest and field are one symphony of joyous movement...



And in the air is a perfume so intoxicating that all manner of life rises from the deepest depths and the coldest caverns to but breathe its heady aroma. This is quite true of birds, bees, flowers, animals... and men...

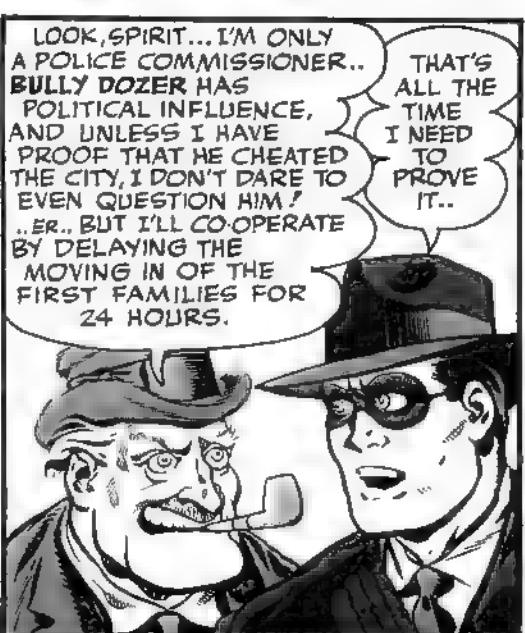


For in this season there comes upon men a restless yearning for far-off places...

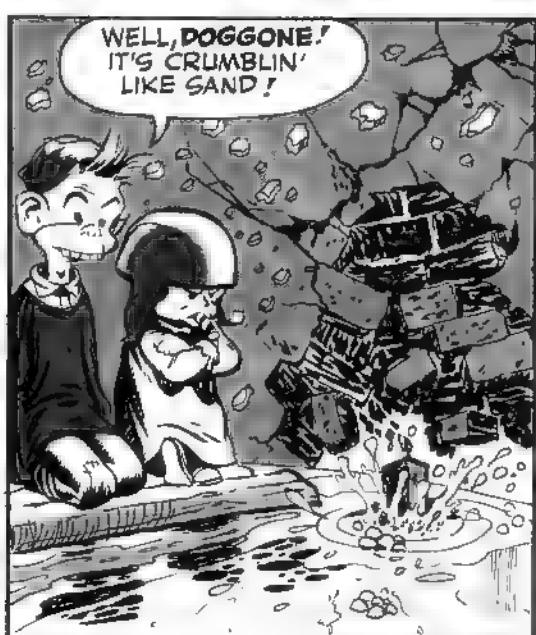
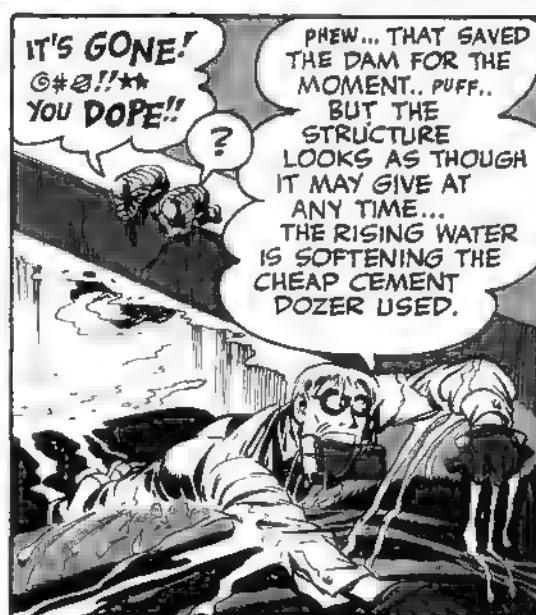


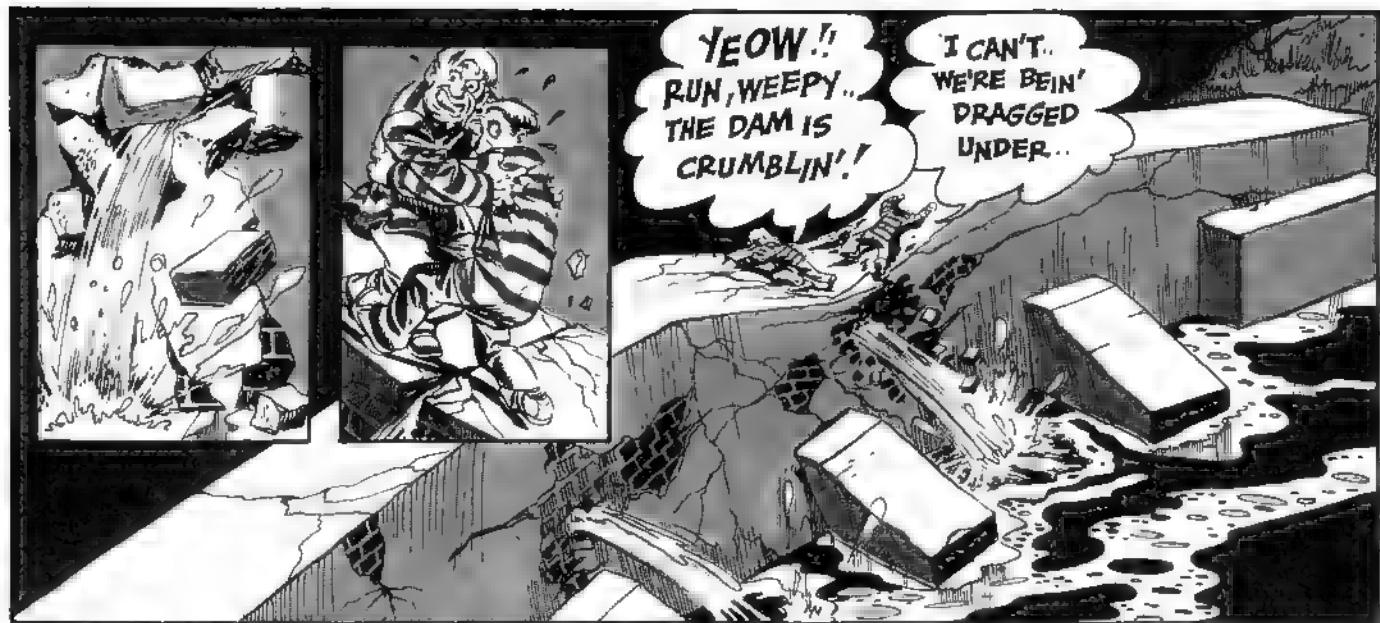
..And an urge for freedom that floods o'er all barriers like a great tide...

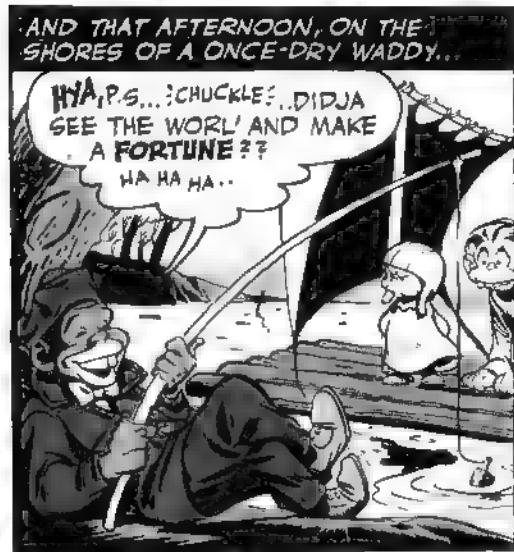
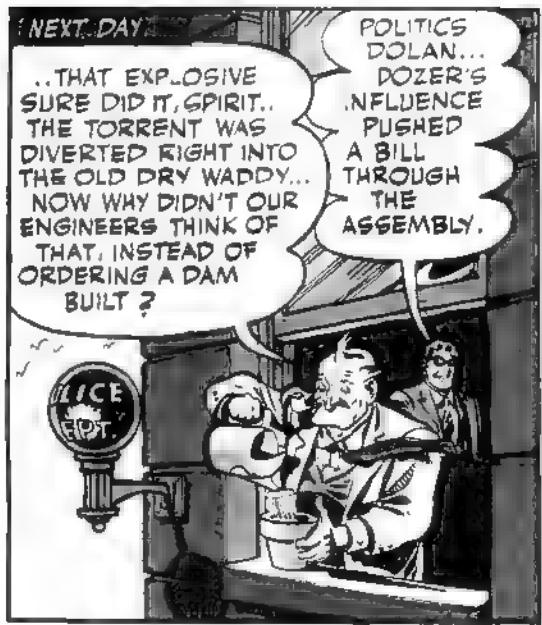












And now the snows upon the mountain peaks melt... pour down the mountain sides... filling the rivers... fattening freshets which water the field for the plough...

**..AND SPRING BURSTS FORTH IN ITS FULL GLORY!!**



# SPIRIT BACK ISSUES



ISSUE #1 #1001/\$2.50



ISSUE #2 #1002 \$2.00



ISSUE #3 #1003/\$1.50



ISSUE #4 #1004 \$1.50



ISSUE #5 #1005/\$1.50



ISSUE #6 #1006/\$1.50



ISSUE #7 #1007/\$1.50



ISSUE #8 #1008/\$1.50

Eight spectacular tales in every issue, one of them in color! Collector's Edition #1 features "The Last Trolley," "Escape," "A Granule of Time," and the full color "El Spirito." SPIRIT #2 brings you "Powder Puff," "Silken Floss, M.D.," and "Mortimer J. Titmouse" in color. SPIRIT #3 has "Black Alley," "Fox at Bay," and its sequel, "Surgery." Also, the color feature "The Strange Case of Mrs. Parrafin." SPIRIT #4 brings the color classic "Elevator," and "Life Below" plus the return of Silk Satin and Vino Red. #5 has "THE SPIRIT, Now Deputy" and the color "Deadly Comic Book." #6 brings "The Wedding" and "Glob." #7 is the all Ebony issue and #8 is the all female foes of the Spirit issue!



## SPIRIT CLASSICS- REPRINTS OF VINTAGE SPIRIT STORIES

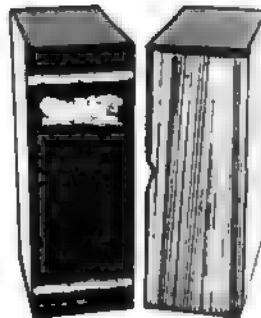
SPIRIT BAG #1 - June to August 1940. The eerie origin of that graveyard gumshoe, THE SPIRIT. He meets mugs, vamps, a Nazi robot, & The Killer Clown, and downs 'em all with his knucks! Bonus: each story has a special note by Will Eisner reminiscing on the strip's creation. #2112 SPIRIT BAG #1/\$4.25

SPIRIT BAG #2 - August to October 1940. The 2-listed SPIRIT slaps the underworld silly, zooms in his flying car, clobbers Dr. Cobra, The Mastermind, and Orang, the Human Ape, as well as other baddies. Meanwhile, Ebony learns to see through walls, which is to his everlasting chagrin! #2157 SPIRIT BAG #2/\$4.25

SPIRIT BAG #3 - October to December 1940. THE SPIRIT joins the US espionage service, but still keeps fighting such baddies as The Black Queen and Slim Pickens and his gang. But keep your eyes on the tale of enemy spies! Plus, Will Eisner talks about the birth of his classic comic strip. #2160 SPIRIT BAG #3/\$4.25

SPIRIT BAG #4 - January to March 1941. War flares and THE SPIRIT saves the US from a squadron of Nazi robot planes and organizes a Fifth Column Radio Espionage Network. Still, he finds time in his schedule to save New York from the hands of a saboteur. Ten great SPIRIT tales in all! #21058 SPIRIT BAG #4/\$4.25

## SAVE YOUR SPIRIT



### BACK ISSUES IN CUSTOM-DESIGNED LIBRARY CASES!

You must know how valuable Warren magazines are. You know how back issues increase in desirability and price as the supply of mint copies dwindles. So, you serious collectors of our books must be pleased to know that we're bringing out a whole fantastic line of CUSTOM-DESIGNED LEATHERETTE FINISH LIBRARY CASES! Each one holds a one-year run of this, your favorite imaginative horror mag, and keeps that run in superb condition. And has our title in gold type right on the spine! Fantastic! Order today!

This SPIRIT LIBRARY CASE features a Navy-Blue spine and black leatherette body. #2682 SPIRIT LIBRARY CASE \$4.95



## SPIRIT POSTER

FULL COLOR! LARGE 2' x 3'

Here's the perfect addition to any wall! A full color poster of the World's Greatest Super-Hero. Drawn by The Spirit's creator, the great Will Eisner, this vibrant pin-up is a big 2 feet by 3 feet. Poster has a matte finish, is printed on heavy, high quality paper, and is a must for fans! #2949/\$2.00.

## ATTENTION COMIC COLLECTORS!



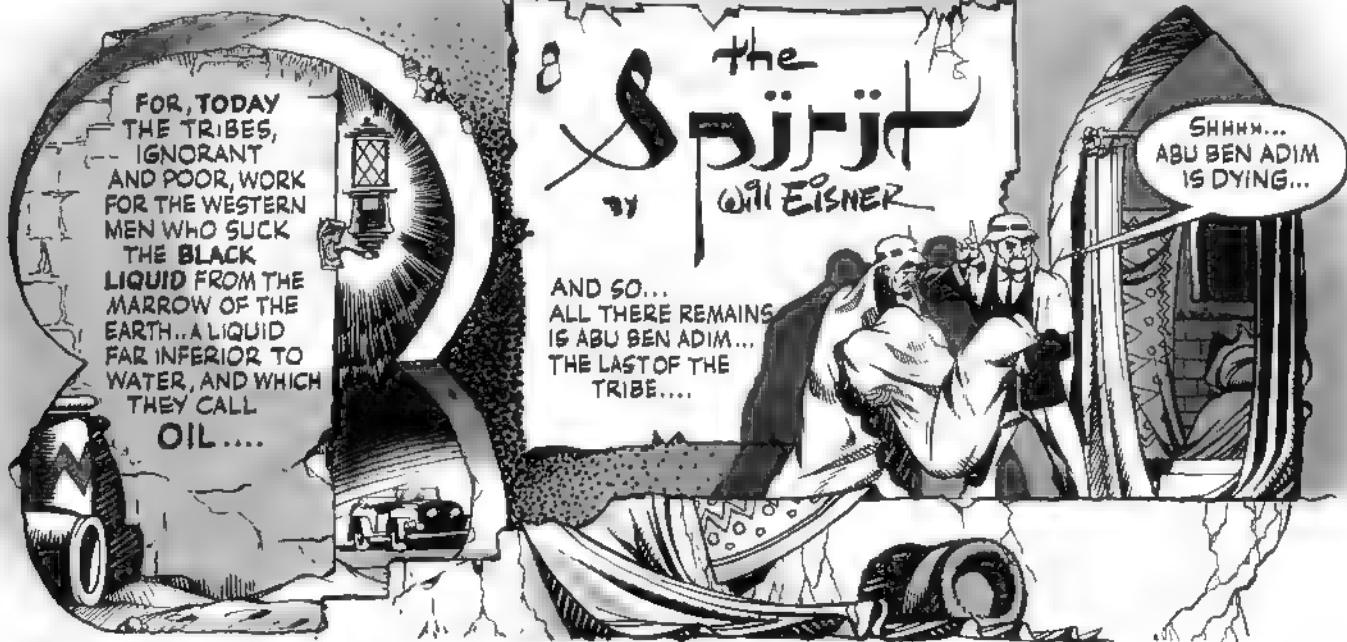
### 1974 NEW YORK COMIC ART CONVENTION PROGRAM BOOK

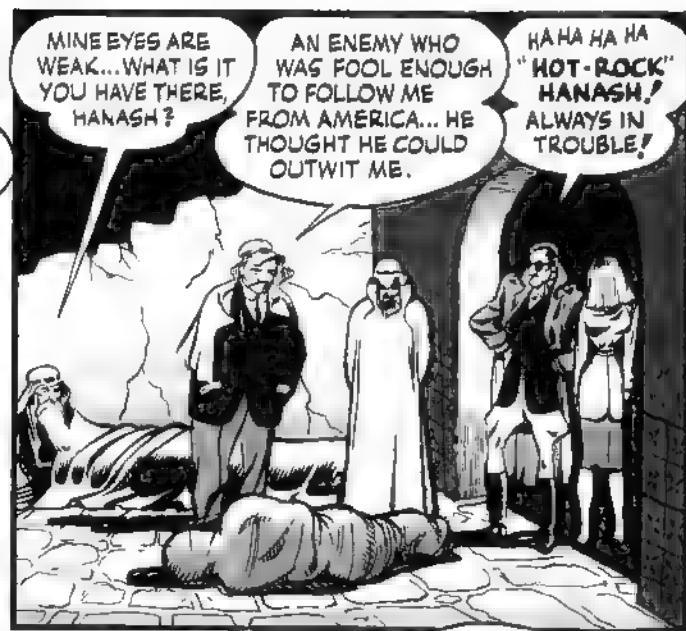
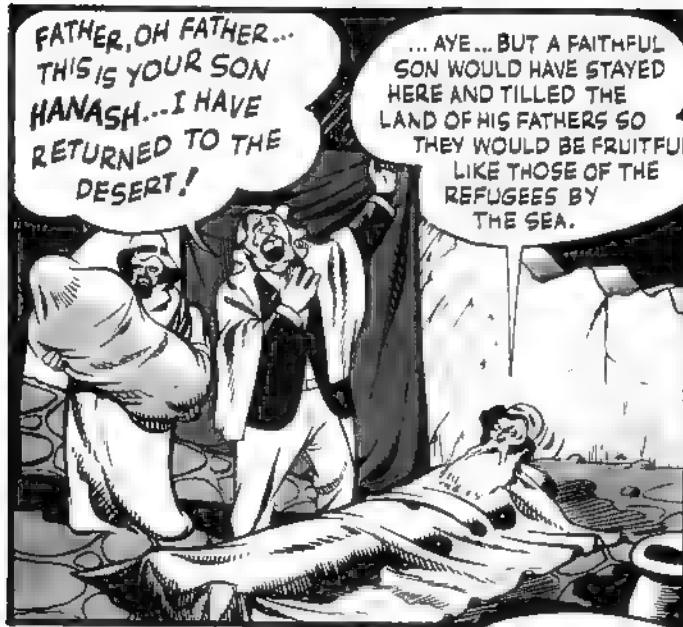
The biggest and best Program Book from the biggest and best Comic Con. The book captures all the excitement and drama of the Comic Event of the Year! This big 100-page 5 1/2" x 8 1/2" book features a full-color cover of Joe Simon's original drawing of CAPTAIN AMERICA! Included are great articles and photos: an in-depth interview with Bob Kane and C.C. Beck, creators of BATMAN and CAPTAIN MARVEL; Will Eisner profile, by artist Murphy Anderson; Joe Simon article, with Simon & Kirby art; Harvey Kurtzman and Little Anny Fanny. No serious collector of comic art can afford to be caught without this star-studded Collector's Item! Order your copy while they last! \$3.00 #21158

# BLACK GOLD

FAVORED WERE THE LANDS OF BEN ADIM  
BLESSED WERE HIS CATTLE AND HIS WIVES  
FOR HIS SONS WERE MANY AND STRONG  
AND HIS TENTS COVERED THE LAND OF ASHIB LIKE THE LOCUST  
BUT THAT WAS IN THE DAYS OF ISRAEL  
WHEN THE TRIBES WHO LEFT THEIR BONDAGE SIGHED WITH ENVY AS THEY TRUDGED PAST TO THE SEA

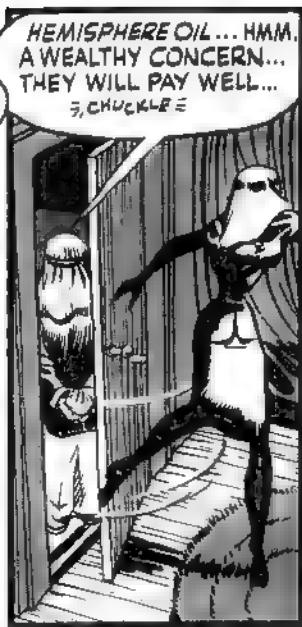
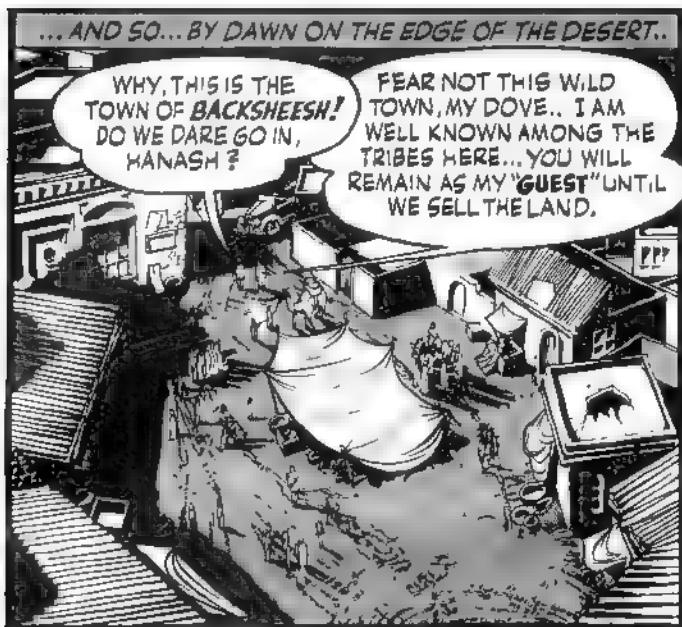
NOW... ALAS... THAT IS NO MORE!  
THE ORCHARDS LIE BARREN  
AND THE WATERING PLACES HAVE WITHERED AND DRIED  
AND WITH THEM THE KINDNESS OF ALLAH  
WHO HAS HALTED THE ISSUE OF THE GREAT ALI BEN ADIM











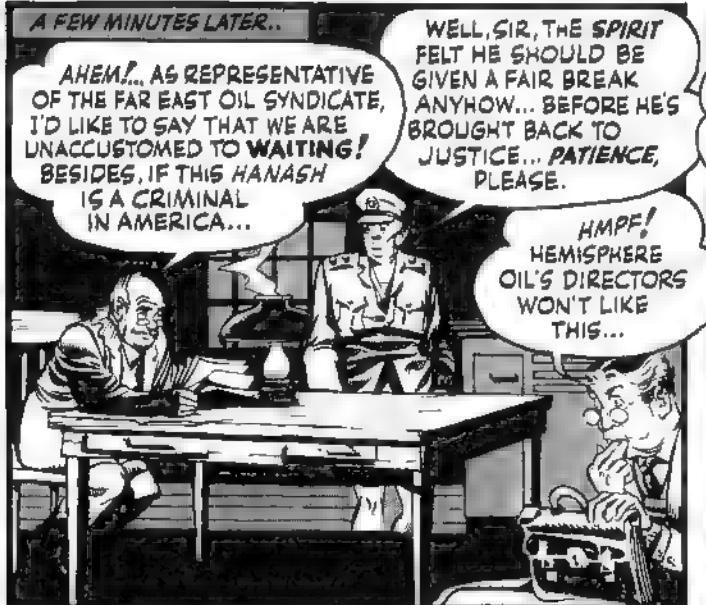
A FEW MINUTES LATER...



EXCELLENT! NOW, COME ALONG AND WE'LL SELL THE DEED... SHHHEW! WHAT A RELIEF TO GET INTO FEMALE CLOTHES AGAIN... THAT VEIL OVER MY FACE ALMOST CHOKED ME.

SHHHEW! MIGHT HAVE KNOWN IT... P'GELL! BOY, HOW THIS GAL GETS AROUND!

A FEW MINUTES LATER...



MEANWHILE...

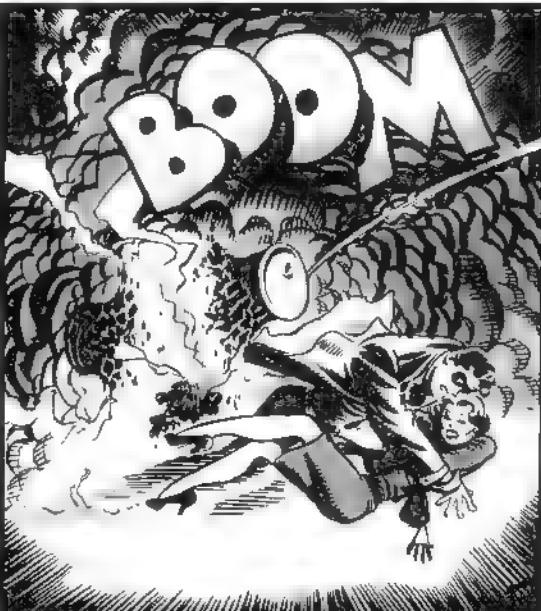
TRICKED BY THAT DOG OF A SPIRIT!.. HOW HE ESCAPED ME IN THE DESERT IS INCRED...



COME OUT, HANASH... I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU A BREAK AND HELP YOU SELL YOUR ILL-GOTTEN LANDS...



QUIET, P'GELL.. I'LL NEED YOU AS A WITNESS... HURRY, HANASH...





...AND SO AS THE STORY IS TOLD BY THE FAKIRS OF BACKSHEESH (FOR A 5 DOLLAR CONSIDERATION, OF COURSE) HANASH WAS TRULY FOUND THE NEXT DAY BY THE SPIRIT... DEAD OF EXHAUSTION IN THE HOT SANDS SOUTH OF THE TOWN... HIS EYES GLAZED AND WITH THE CURSE OF ALLAH UPON THEM... THE SWORD OF BEN ADIM LOST FOREVER...



## BUT WAIT... THERE IS MORE...\*

... WANDERERS IN THAT BARREN WASTE REPORT THAT SOMEWHERE IN THE LANDS OF BEN ADIM THERE LIES ALI THE FIRST SON WHO, WITH THE KNIFE IMBEDDED IN HIM, CRAWLED MANY MILES IN FRANTIC SEARCH OF WATER... FOUND, AT LAST, A TINY HOLE FROM WHICH BUBBLED A LIQUID. HE SCRABBLED FRANTICALLY TO DRINK, ONLY TO FIND... IT... WAS... OIL.



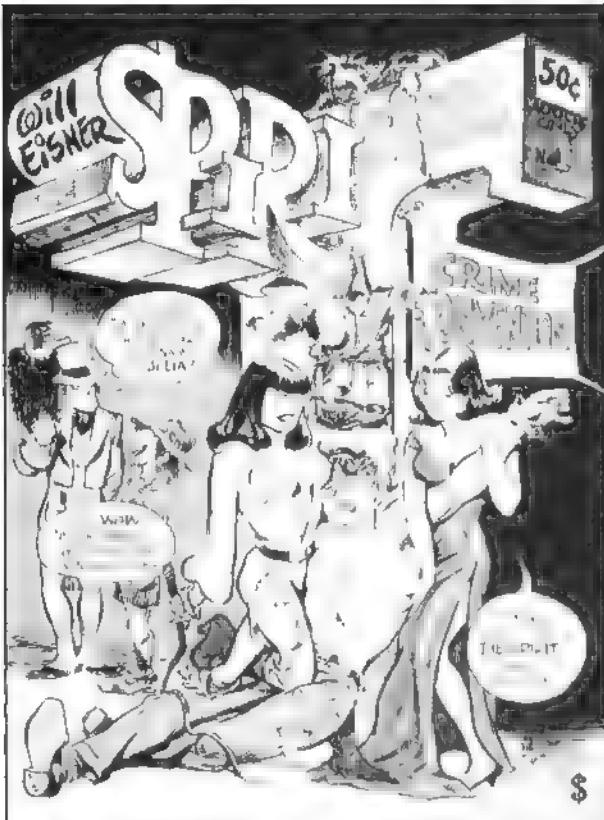
THIS LAST WAS PUBLISHED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THOSE OIL COMPANIES STILL INTERESTED IN PURSUING THE SEARCH FOR THE SWORD OF BEN ADIM. SHOULD THIS INFORMATION BE INSTRUMENTAL IN A SUCCESSFUL EXPEDITION WE WOULD OF COURSE (AHEM) BE GRATEFUL (COUGH) FOR A SMALL...ER... TOKEN GIFT... (CASH)

# THE SPIRIT

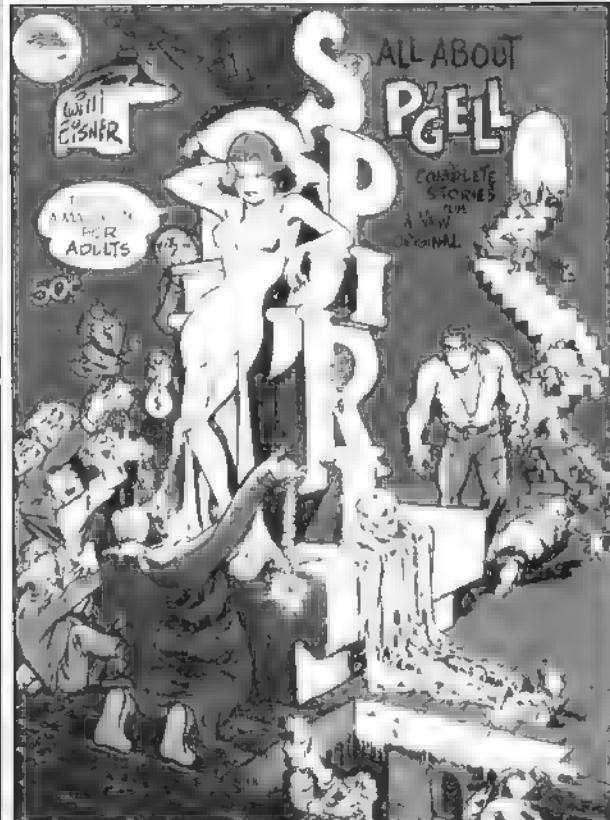
# RARE UNDERGROUND

# COMIC BOOKS!

In the early '70's Dennis Kitchen published several underground comics featuring Will Eisner's classic crime-fighting hero, THE SPIRIT. They were difficult to find. And those available rapidly disappeared. Warren Publishing has acquired a limited supply of these rare underground comics and will be selling them for only \$1.25 each while the supply lasts. Each 7"x10" black and white book is 32 pages long. Each has a full color original cover. Each contains four reprint stories plus four pages of never-before-published art. This is an offer no SPIRIT fan can refuse. Get these fine selections from the classic SPIRIT saga. CRIME CONVENTION contains early post-war tales published in 1946. The P'GELL tales range through '46 and '47. Neither of these comics are books you'll want to miss. Order your copies while they last!



**CRIME CONVENTION.** Meet some of the criminals who have made crime worth fighting. Big time crooks like THE SPIRIT's arch-enemy, The Octopus. Or Max Scarr, master embezzler. Or Grumly, who almost committed the perfect crime. Small time crooks like Prince Chawmink, a pickpocket with style. Or beautiful criminals. Like Pantha Stalk. And P'Gell. Meet THE SPIRIT's cohorts and companions in crime-fighting. Commissioner Dolan. Ebony White. And sometimes Silk Satin. Four old reprints. Four new feature interviews, included the much discussed interview with Ebony. Visit Caramba... the crime capital of the world for the Crime Convention of the century. Don't miss it. It's murder! #21181/\$1.25



P'Gell goes through husbands like kids go through cookie jars. She's beautiful, seductive and downright dangerous. Especially if you're rich. And male. The comic opens with "Meet P'Gell" and her classic introduction "I'm P'Gell... and this is not a story for little boys!" P'Gell's "School for Girls" ("Seven marriages? Can you think of a better background for advising young girls on the rough road of life?") introduces Saree, P'Gell's stepdaughter. She sees in Saree "the beginnings of some keen competition." P'Gell makes a profit (of course) on an imitation of "The Duce's Locket." And the explosive "Capistrano Jewels" is a never-before-published P'Gell finale. Five P'Gell tales! #21182/\$1.25

## ORDER THIS CLASSIC DUO!

To order any of these items, please see last page of this magazine  
for convenient RUSH ORDER FORM.

# SPiLiT

BY (W)ILL EISNER

SOMETIMES THERE OCCURS IN THE HISTORY OF CRIMEFIGHTING AN INCIDENT THAT SEEMS TO BELIE THE TRUTH THAT CRIME DOES NOT PAY. OFTEN THIS IS MERELY BECAUSE THE PUNISHMENT METED OUT TO A CRIMINAL DOES NOT SEEM EQUAL TO HIS VILLAINY...

BUT LET US ASSURE YOU THAT WHAT SEEMS LIKE A LUCKY BREAK FOR A CRIMINAL IS OFTEN NOTHING BUT THE WORKING OUT OF A HIGHER JUSTICE! THIS IS BEYOND OUR MORTAL VISION... UNLESS AN OPPORTUNITY IS GIVEN TO US...

...AN OPPORTUNITY TO OBSERVE

## Two Lives

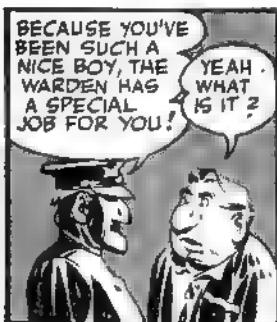
AT THE SAME TIME...

The sad affair of  
**CARBOY T. GRETCH**  
Time: Now  
Place: Central City Jail



The somewhat less sad affair of  
**CRANFRANZ QWAYLE**  
Time: Now  
Place: Central City Suburbs

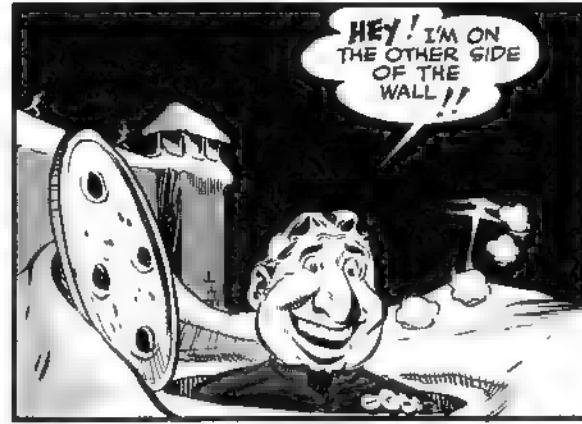




B E G I N N I N G



E N D O F E P I S O D E

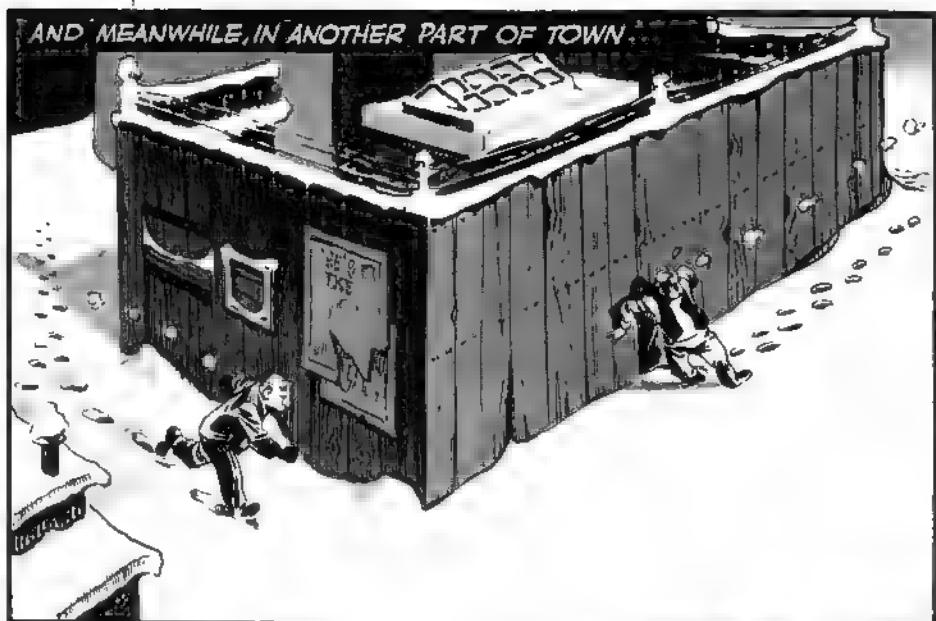


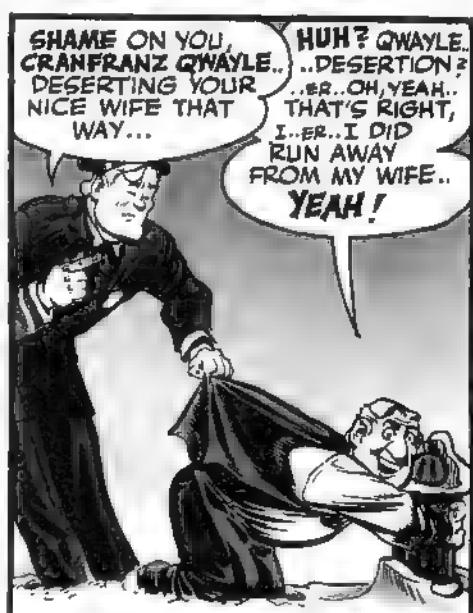
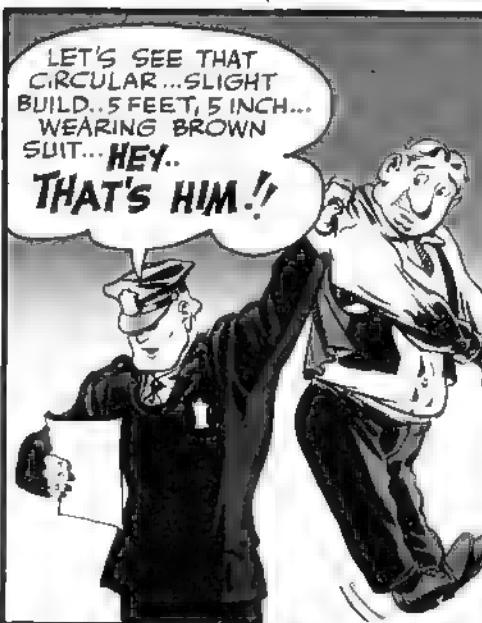
B E G I N N I N G



E N D O F E P I S O D E











AND SO... AS WE SAID... WHO AMONG US CAN ACCURATELY SAY WHAT IS A FIT PUNISHMENT ?? OR... IN THE WORDS OF HIS IMPERIAL MAJESTY, GILBERT & SULLIVAN'S EARNEST MIKADO, OF JAPAN...

My object all sublime  
I shall achieve in time  
To let the punishment fit the crime  
The punishment fit the crime...♪

CARBOY T. GRETCH

PAGE 7



CRANFRANZ QWAYLE

PAGE 7



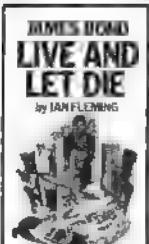
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# ACTION, SUSPENSE, MYSTERY PAPERBACK BOOKS



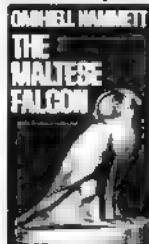
**SERPICO**  
The most popular of all police novels. An exciting true story based on the career of a cop who could not be bought. An adult, gripping work! #21097 \$1.75



**JAMES BOND  
LIVE AND LET DIE**  
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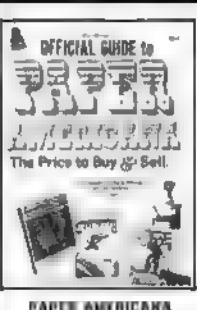
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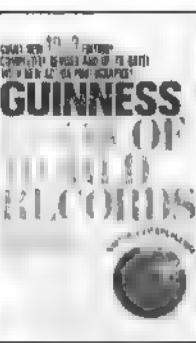
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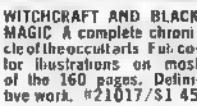
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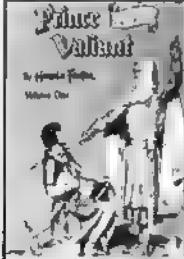
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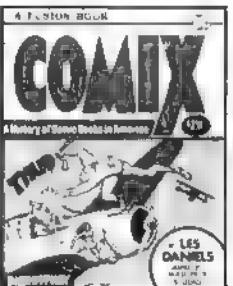
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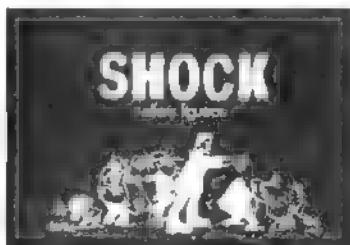
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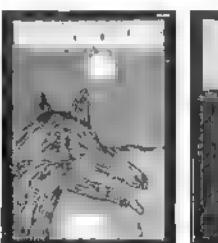
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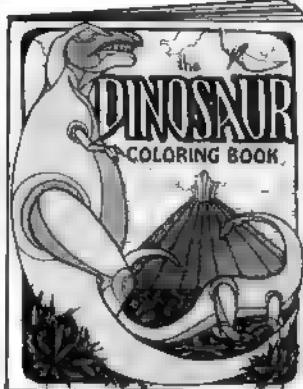
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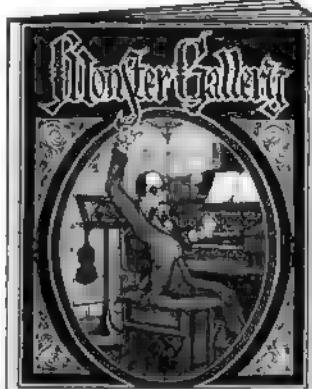
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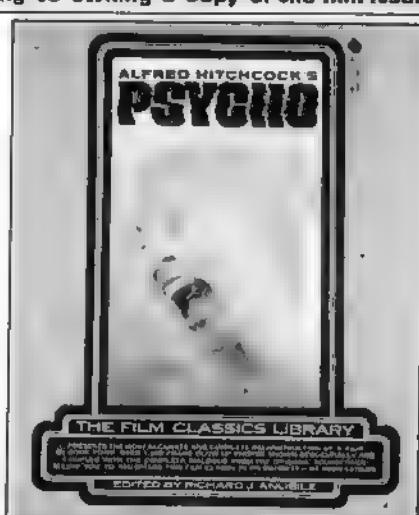
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### CHAPTER THREE

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Sinbad and his men reach Colossa, and scale the craggy peaks to the Roc's nest. There, they do battle with the great two-headed bird, and Sinbad is captured by the monster. If that weren't enough, a living human skeleton is brought to life by Sokurah to menace the adventurous seamen. And there are still surprises galore! BW \$8.95 / #22008 Color: \$19.95 / #22032

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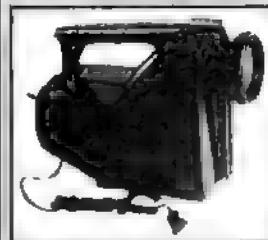
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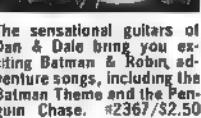
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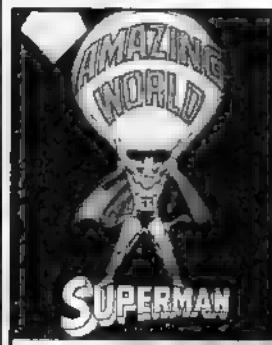


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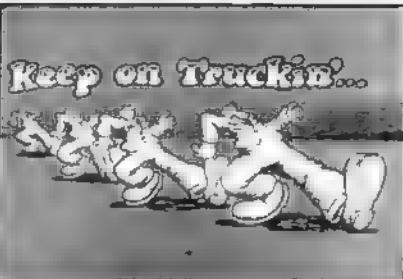
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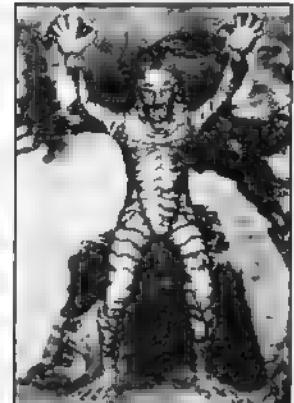
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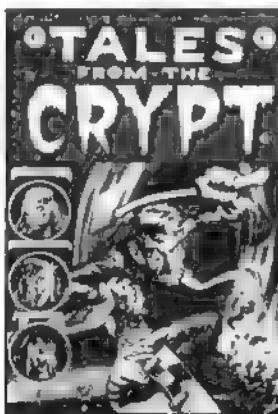
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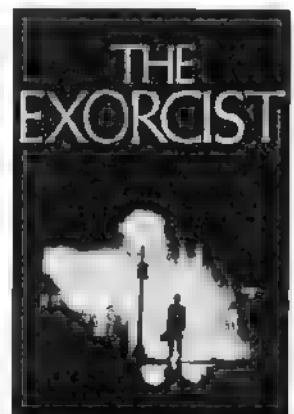
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# YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN

IS A MEL BROOKS CLASSIC MONSTER MOVIE SPOOF.  
IT IS ALSO A BOOK, POSTER, ETC., ETC., ETC.



## PAPERBACK BOOK

This zany 4" x 7" 152 page paperback is based on the Young Frankenstein screenplay by Gene Wilder and Mel Brooks. It has all the zany gags and lunacy of the movie plus 16 pages of fabulous photos. In this insane comedy, THE Dr. Frankenstein dies, leaving his fortune to young Freddy. In the library, Freddy finds Grandad's instructions for a do-it-yourself monster and the delightful fun begins. #21171/\$1.50

## LP RECORD

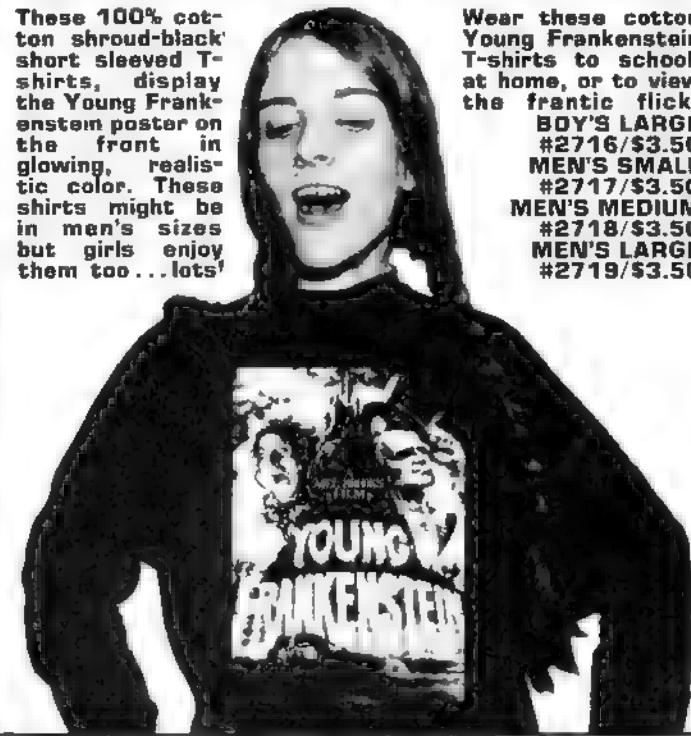
Actual music and dialogue from the film! Includes the "Young Frankenstein" theme plus some of the funniest bits. Remember "Fron-kon-steen?" The neighing horses? Remember the moment when the monster came to life? Remember its moving speech? Freddy's wedding night? All this featured on soundtrack recording. #2370/\$6.98



## T-SHIRT

WEAR A YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN MOVIE POSTER ON YOUR OWN COTTON T-SHIRT

These 100% cotton shroud-black short sleeved T-shirts, display the Young Frankenstein poster on the front in glowing, realistic color. These shirts might be in men's sizes but girls enjoy them too... lots!



Wear these cotton Young Frankenstein T-shirts to school, at home, or to view the frantic flick!

BOY'S LARGE #2716/\$3.50  
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## 40" x 26" FULL COLOR YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN POSTER



## MEL BROOKS' SPOOF IS THE MOST FRIGHTFULLY FUN FRANKENSTEIN YET! GET YOUR POSTER NOW!

"Young Frankenstein" spoofs all the monster cliches we have seen again & again and have grown to love over the past seventy years of monster movie history. See the movie! You'll laugh! You'll shout! You'll tell all your friends. You'll spend hours doing "bits" from the film! (Remember Mel Brooks' "Blazing Saddles"?) Now you can own a giant 26" x 40" full color reproduction of the poster that lured you there in the first place! It features Gene Wilder as the young Dr. Frankenstein, Peter Boyle as his zipper-neck Monster, Marty Feldman as Igor and the lightning struck castle up on the cliff. A fine addition to any room, den or dungeon. Hold on to it. Mel Brooks has created a Monster masterpiece. This poster may soon become a collector's classic. We've made an offer you can't refuse! #2967/\$2.50

## PLANET OF THE APES

# Giant Poster-Puzzle

9  
SQ. FEET



### DR. ZAIUS

It's a puzzle! It's a poster! It's a collector's item no ape freak will want to miss. This full-color portrait-puzzle of the scientist ape, Dr. Zaius, is 44" x 30". That's over 9 square feet. This deluxe heavy-duty cardboard puzzle-kit comes complete with wall mounting materials. Change your puzzle to a poster it's easy. It's fun. Just follow the simple instructions. Construct an ape on your floor. Hang an ape on your wall. 24 large easy to handle pieces make it a snap. Get a Dr. Zaius puzzle today. Go ape. #2693/\$4.50

### GALEN

Giant, full-color and spectacular! This spiffy 44" x 30" portrait-puzzle is more fun to construct than a barrel of monkeys. The gigantic puzzle with twenty-four mammoth pieces is easily put together to make a huge portrait of television's hero-ape, Galen. And this is where your fun begins. The puzzle comes complete with deluxe mounting strips. Just follow the simple instructions and within minutes you'll own a heavy-duty 9-square-foot poster. Mount it on your wall. Don't miss this Galen puzzle giant! #2694/\$4.50



## PLANET OF THE APES MASKS

DELUXE! MADE IN HOLLYWOOD!  
WORTH THE PRICE!

Look at the pictures below. These are actual photos of the deluxe ape masks we are offering for sale. The three beautiful, high-quality vinyl, full over-the-head masks are realistic reproductions of the movie ape-faces. Each has real hair framing its expressive vinyl features. Film your own Planet of the Apes sequels. Wear the faces to parties. Shock the city! Put an ape head on under a business suit, a la Cornelius.



DR. ZAIUS

Dr. Zaius is a statesman and a philosopher. This orangutan is by nature a peaceful and non-violent ape. He is convinced by the evil General Ursus that, for the peace of the Ape's world, humanity must be destroyed. This Zaius mask sports the rust colored fur characteristic of the orangutans. Be the scientist-philosopher. Join your friends for an ape revel. #2571/\$4.95



GENERAL ALDO

General Aldo is the war-like gorilla-general who plans to overthrow Caesar and wipe out all humanity on the planet's surface. He even kills Caesar's only son. Play this bad-die! Be a real villain. With minimal changes, you can convert this mask to the cruel face of General Ursus, another gorilla-warrior who tried to destroy humanity in earlier movies. #2572/\$4.95



CORNELIUS

Cornelius is a hero ape. He is intelligent, inquisitive. He befriends the astronauts, escapes the end of the ape world and fathers the deliver-ape, Caesar. Be Cornelius' alter-ego. Wear his face. Be a hero! The Cornelius head is beautifully molded and instantly recognizable! It is a must for making ape-films, attending costume parties. Real quality. #2570/\$4.95

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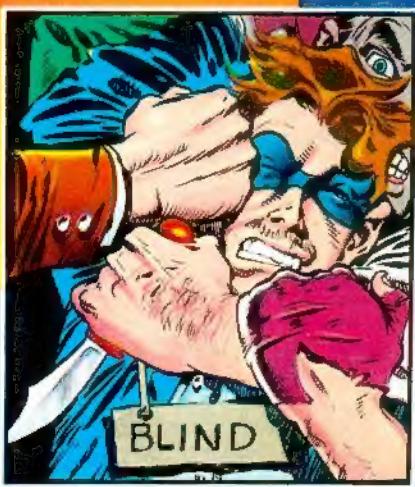
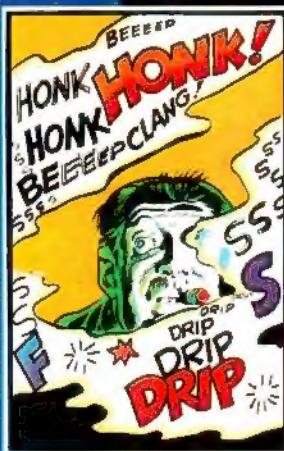


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